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THE BEAUTIFUL GAME GETS UGLY

URUGUAY'S WIN OVER ITALY MARRED BY ALLEGED BITE, COLOMBIA TROUNCES JAPAN, AND GREECE SLIPS BY IVORY COAST

PAGE 25

Michael cares not for all the hulla-Bay-loo

Transformers director has started ignoring his critics; plus, with Metro AR, there's more than meets the eye PAGE 15

R.A. Dickey just pitches through pain

New ad sees Blue Jay explain how he endured all kinds of adversity to stay on top of the mound PAGE 6

BREAKING NEWS

→ A week after an EF-2 tornado tore through Angus, injuring three and damaging about 100 homes, an EF-1 tornado touched down near Tottenham Tuesday afternoon. For the latest, head to metronews.ca

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

City and TTC get serious about a low-income fare

Transit affordability. Report seeks to get the whole gang together to form joint guidelines

For the first time, the city and the TTC are working together to look at how Toronto could offer a low-income fare.

"There's a lot of talk about transit expansion, but if we don't have a companion conversation about affordability we might not be providing transit benefits to those Torontonians who most need it," said Chris Brillinger, executive director of Toronto's social development, finance and administration.

The issue has been raised at the TTC and other city departments individually. Now, however, a report going before Toronto's executive committee July 2 recommends that staff from social development, the TTC, public health, planning and others develop joint guidelines. The policy would come back to council in early 2015.

"If you want a concession pass for lower-income people you have to fund it," said TTC chief customer officer Chris Upfold. That's a policy decision that has to come from outside the TTC.

"It's not necessarily fair to ask other customers to pay more," said Upfold.

Many of the transit improvements planned for the region are designed to serve low-income areas, said Monica Campbell of Toronto Public Health.

"I don't think it's easy to create affordable transit. This is the time, this is the moment to have conversations about it and to work toward it," she said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Precedent

Hamilton, Windsor and York Region have affordable fare policies, said Monica Campbell of Toronto Public Health.

- A report before its board last March showed that the lowest-income commuters are nearly twice as likely to depend on transit for work as the highest income group.

BOUCHARD'S BATTLE CRY

Canadian tennis sweetheart Eugenie Bouchard celebrates match point against Slovakia's Daniela Hantuchova at the Wimbledon Championships in London on Tuesday. More Wimbledon coverage, page 24. ANDREW YATES/GETTY IMAGES

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$4.7 million. Lighting up viaduct will lighten up city's wallet

Turning the Bloor Viaduct into a beacon of light in time for the Pan American Games is going to cost nearly $3 million more than rough earlier projections suggested.

A Toronto staff report that will go to the city's executive committee next week estimates the final price tag of lighting up the Prince Edward Viaduct with a cascade of changing colours and patterns will be nearly $4.7 million.

The higher-than-projected cost of the viaduct project stands in contrast to Toronto's 10 Pan Am capital projects that are, for the most part, progressing on or under budget. The city has saved nearly $10 million on the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre alone.

When a suicide barrier was erected on the viaduct in 2003, a "luminous veil" of coloured lights illuminating the Bloor Street East heritage bridge were part of the plan. But budget constraints got in the way and the more esthetic portions of the work weren't completed.

Last year, an engineering firm provided a rough estimate of $1.8 million for the lighting project. Council added the project to Toronto's $20-million showcase program, designed to enhance the city during the Games, and approved $200,000 to pay for designs, engineering work and detailed cost analysis. It also gave the green light to another $1.6 million to come from the 2014 budget if the project could be finished before the Games. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Fringe friends freely frolick for festival

Three performer/writers, from left, Rafael Antonio Renderos, Melisse Watson and Lwam Ghebrehariat, who are appearing at this year's Toronto Fringe Festival as a result of their winning diversity project, ham it up on Tuesday in Toronto. This year's festival takes place from July 2 to 13 in local venues, playgrounds, parking lots and more, with productions ranging from dramas and musicals to improv and dance shows. The Fringe Festival returns 100 per cent of its profits to the artists themselves.

VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Poll shows Ford still in the race after rehab

Toronto politics. New numbers appear to lend credence to campaign manager Doug Ford's claim mayor's absence hasn't hurt his standing

Rob Ford remains competitive in the mayoral election, even after taking a seven-week leave from the campaign, the latest poll suggests.

Ford, who plans to return to the city next Monday, trailed Olivia Chow by seven percentage points in a survey conducted on Monday night. Chow beat him by 18 percentage points in a survey on June 6.

That poll was by far Ford's worst of the campaign. The new poll was his best since mid-April, and it was the first since mid-April, in which he was ahead of John Tory. This lends credence to campaign manager Doug Ford's claim that the mayor's prolonged absence has not hurt his standing.

Chow had 34 per cent support, Ford 27 per cent, Tory 24 per cent. David Soknacki hit six per cent, the highest he has been at any point of the campaign. Karen Stintz was at three per cent, her worst showing in relation to Soknacki and tied for her worst showing overall. Another six per cent of respondents said they didn't know who they would vote for.

Despite Ford's gains in the five-candidate contest, the poll's overall results offered more evidence that he has a low support ceiling that will make it difficult for him to improve enough to win.

Fifty-eight per cent of the poll's respondents said they want Ford to resign. And few people who did not already plan to vote for him viewed him favourably: His approval rating was 32 per cent, the second-lowest of his term.

Tory retained the highest approval rating: 61 per cent. Chow's was 57 per cent. Soknacki, at 47 per cent, and Stintz, at 41 per cent, both beat Ford easily.

The Forum Research survey of 890 Toronto residents was conducted via interactive voice response automated telephone calls. The margin of error was three percentage points, 19 times out of 20. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Support systems

Since John Tory is strongest among older voters who are traditionally most likely to vote and Olivia Chow among younger voters, the true support gap between him and Chow might be smaller than the numbers suggest.

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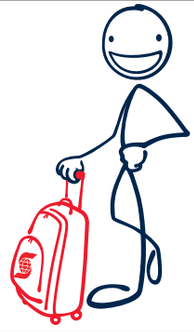

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Miami Travel Jul 1 – Jul 9/ac/ac	$438	$936
Calgary Travel Jul 8 – Jul 12/ac/ac	$543	$1965
Vancouver Travel Jul 8 – Jul 15/ac/ac	$567	$1161

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Niagara Falls August Long Weekend Family Special, 2 Nights 4-Star **$95**◊ pp
Sheraton on the Falls
INCLUDES accom on Falls Ave. Price per person based on family of 4. Travel Aug 3/ggv. **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy for $189.

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Seralago Hotel and Suites
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California Dreaming

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INCLUDES accom located near the marina with daily breakfast. **BONUS** free* San Diego Zoo ticket included. Departs Sep 1/ggv/dl.

The San Diego Trolley offers an easy way to get to around without having to hunt for a parking place or drive through traffic.

EXPERT TIP

Anaheim Family Special
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Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites Anaheim
INCLUDES accom at a newly renovated hotel featuring an art deco ambiance near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. **BONUS** one free* *Disneyland* Resort *3-Day 1-Park Per Day* Ticket included. Departs Aug 21/ggv/ac. **ADD** additional *Disneyland* Resort *3-Day 1-Park Per Day* Tickets for $259/adult, $249/child (ages 3-9).

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Nursat Raana holds up a photo of her husband, Mahmood Bhatti, who was stabbed to death while driving his cab in 2006. Raana spoke with the media Tuesday about the changes to the taxi industry. JESSICA SMITH CROSS/METRO

Taxi widows rail against new rules

Toronto Taxicab Alliance. City council wants to stop people from leasing plates

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

A group of women known as "taxi widows" spoke at a press conference Tuesday denouncing Toronto city council's overhaul of the taxi industry.

"The first thing I have to say is this is the most embarrassing, humiliating thing to have to go through — to put your problems out in public," said Doris Kostyck.

Kostyck, 83, was among a small group of women assembled by the taxi industry group called the Toronto Taxicab Alliance to tell their own stories about how the changes will affect them.

Kostyck's story was typical of the taxi widows. Her husband Leo was a driver for 40 years before he died.

"He got knifed, he got robbed, all the things that cab drivers (experience)," she said.

He passed away 23 years ago and she's been living off the leasing income from the two plates.

Under the rules approved by city council that take effect in July, she will be able to continue to lease the plates for the next 10 years, but then must sell to someone who will drive the taxis — not lease them as she does now. "I'm in dire straits and don't know which way to turn," she said. "And I have Parkinson's disease to look forward to."

Leasing plates is typically more lucrative than selling them outright and, according to the industry group, the uncertainty surrounding the changes to the system have made the value of the plates — often sold for more than $300,000 before the changes — fall significantly.

The highest sale price since the reforms were passed in February was $232,000. Most of the 60 sales since then have been for less than $200,000. The average price for plates sold fell to $134,000 since the council decision, down from about $250,000 in 2012.

The group has filed a lawsuit that seeks to stop the changes, arguing council's decision violated procedure, and will be in court Wednesday arguing for an injunction to stop the city from proceeding while the suit moves through the courts.

Kostyck disputed the stereotype of the absentee plate owner as owning many plates and living off leasing income while sipping drinks in Florida.

Just how representative the widows are of plate owners, and exactly who owns multiple plates, is unclear. City records show that 56 companies have five or more licences, 14 have 10 or more. The top two companies have 18 plates each.

However, dozens of numbered companies own plates, so who controls the companies — and the true concentration of plates — is not publicly known.

The councillors who voted for the industry reforms did so mainly to improve the lives of shift drivers, who rent time in taxis and have long complained about working long hours that often leave them coming home with less than the equivalent of minimum wage.

Price drop

Change threatens widow's son

One woman was in a different situation than the others. Gail Bouchard's sister, Beverly Chilton, was a taxi widow and passed away recently. Bouchard is the executive of her sister's will and responsible for the financial well-being of her sister's intellectually disabled adult son.

The city's rules for estates are different than they are for other plate holders. As the executor of her sister's estate, Bouchard has one year to sell her sister's two plates to provide for her nephew. Where she may have gotten a total of $600,000 to 700,000 for the pair of plates if she'd sold them a year ago, she believes she'll get significantly less if she tries today.

Bouchard said the uncertainty about the changes has made the plates hard to sell and the lawsuit has made that worse.

"The price of the cabs has dropped dramatically," she said. "No one wants to buy them because of the bylaws changing."

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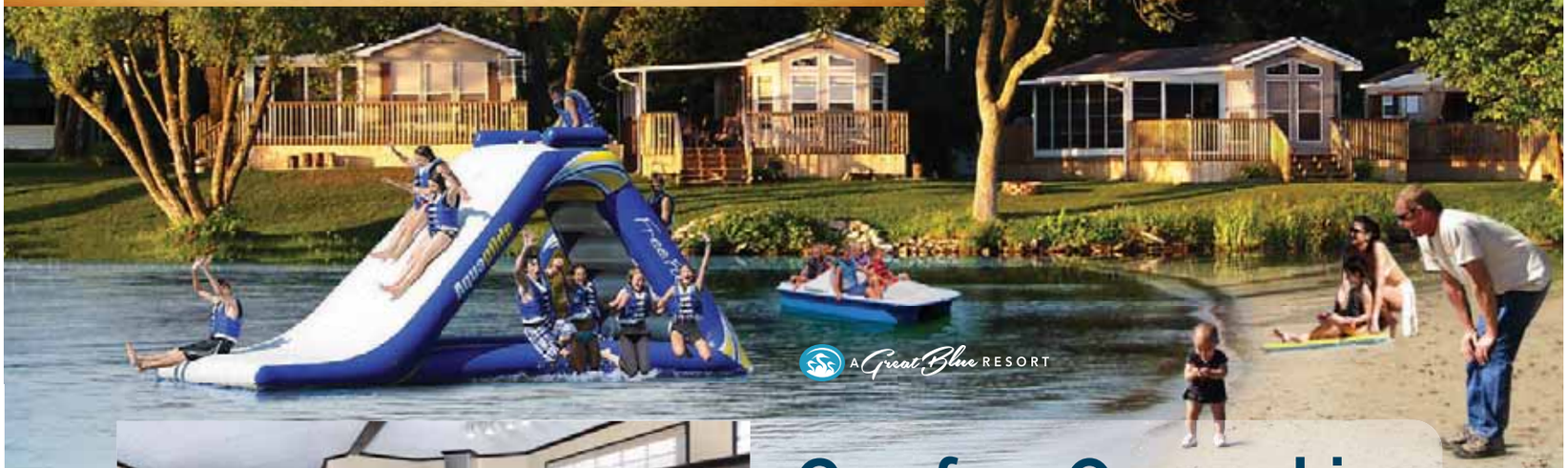

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Knuckleball as a metaphor for life

On and off the mound. Blue Jays pitcher R.A. Dickey finds parallels between his signature pitch and personal narratives

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

Blue Jay pitcher R.A. Dickey says in life, you get thrown a lot of "knuckleballs."

What matters is how you "adapt, overcome and try to claw your way back up to the top," he says in an online ad.

It's an unusual ad, featuring a rather unusual ballplayer, who's as apt to talk about "personal narratives" as he is about balls and strikes.

Dickey stars in the ad campaign by Dickies, the "work wear" brand that invites people to share their own stories of overcoming adversity in order to win a weekly contest.

Dickey's had plenty of adversity in baseball, and in life.

His baseball story goes that, in 1996, he was ready to sign a contract with the Texas Rangers with an $810,000 bonus, when a team doctor spotted his right arm hanging oddly in a photo and suggested it be checked before signing him.

They found out a ligament — the one thought so crucial to pitchers that scores of them have undergone Tommy John surgery to fix it — was completely missing.

The Rangers signed him for a $75,000 bonus instead. He had to prove himself all over again but in the process developed his signature knuckleball — an erratic, unpredictable pitch that's as difficult for the pitcher to control as it is for the batter to hit — and became the Cy Young Award winner in a remarkable 2012 season with the New York Mets.

Online

To see the ad, go to youtube.com/watch?v=spHc2wbYwGU

His personal story is somewhat less typical of an advertising campaign. Dickey was sexually assaulted as a boy. He wrote about what happened and how it affected his personal life in a memoir. He's also raised money to combat sex trafficking in India and spoken with school kids who also suffered abuse about the value of not staying silent.

That is also a part of what he's talking about in the ad campaign, he said.

"Most of the time, whether we're honest enough to admit or not, a lot of the stories have adversity and challenges and tribulations and things that are not necessarily easy to talk about or get over," he said.

Dickey called himself "a big fan of narrative" and said one of the reasons he signed on to the campaign is it gives people — who don't have a platform like being a pro ballplayer — a way to tell stories that can impact others.

"That's always what I've wanted baseball to do. How can I use the things in my life, through the platform of baseball, to maybe make a positive impact?" he said. "In 20 years there's not going to be a lot of people who remember me, but they may remember my story and may remember some of the things that are valuable about my journey. And that's a big deal."

Toronto Blue Jay pitcher R.A. Dickey stars in the ad campaign by Dickies, the "work wear" brand that invites people to share their own stories of overcoming adversity in order to win a weekly contest. CONTRIBUTED

Hopes high for October ball

"I think that we've got as good a chance as anybody. You know we did kind of have a road bump with Brett Lawrie getting hurt and I think Jose (Bautista, who is also currently on the disabled list) is going to end up being OK. I think we've got the personnel to compete for a chance to be in a World Series. That's my heart, at least."

Dickey on the Jays' chances this year

How the world remembers Dickey is yet to be seen. Since he signed with the Jays, he hasn't pitched as well as his Cy Young season — and that's a current challenge.

"There have been only a handful of people who've ever played the game of baseball that can be a two- or three-time Cy Young Award winner, so it's a really, really difficult thing to do. So I feel that if I don't win a Cy Young, I can still give our team a consistent chance to win ball games," he said.

As a sports fan and a fan of narratives, he said he understands why fans are disappointed when a player's professional narrative changes when he goes from winning games to losing them.

"I think it's fair from a fan's point of view," he said. "I think the truly devout fan understands that the game is not easy ... We play 162 games over 183 days and over the course of that season you're going to have a lot of ups and downs."

For all of these reasons, he says the unpredictable knuckleball is a perfect metaphor for life.

"It comes with a lot of baggage," he said. "It's hard to throw for strikes. People don't necessarily give it its due, because it doesn't look the same as every other pitch.

"As far the flight itself goes, the ball moves in an up and down way; such is life. You've got to hold what's bad about the pitch and what's great about the pitch at once. Just like in life, you've got to hold the bad things that happen as well as the things that are full of joy."

Pitching through pain

"I am recovering OK. You know, throughout the year you kind of get nicked up and banged up and you got to learn to pitch through some of that stuff. And right now that's part of what's happening, but I feel like I'm managing it enough to be really competitive."

Dickey on recovering from his groin injury

Inspiring immigrants honoured

Canada's most inspiring and accomplished immigrants were honoured Tuesday in Toronto at the annual RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrants Awards.

Recipients included South African-born entrepreneur and Dragons' Den venture capitalist Arlene Dickinson, musician Gentil Misigaro, who arrived in Canada from the Democratic Republic of Congo only four years ago, former Rhodes scholar and CEO of MaRS Discovery District Ilse Treurnicht, and 92-year-old wine-making pioneer Peter Mielzynski, who came to Canada in 1949 with only $140 in gold coins in his pocket.

"What a wonderful journey it's been," said award recipient Amit Chakma, who came to Canada from Bangladesh and today is the president of Western University.

RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrants Award winners, from left, Dr. Surinder Singh Khurana, Gentil Misigaro, Julie Suen and Akram Al-Otumi. LIA GRAINGER/FOR METRO

"I've always wanted to excel in whatever I did, and this country gave me the opportunity to do so."

LIA GRAINGER/FOR METRO

Patient info leaked

Rouge Valley faces $400M suit over privacy breach

A $412-million class-action lawsuit has been brought against a Scarborough hospital on behalf of thousands of patients whose personal information was leaked by two former employees.

The hospital revealed earlier this month that the contact information of as many as 8,300 patients at Rouge Valley Centenary, mainly mothers who gave birth between 2009 and 2013, had allegedly been handed over to private companies that marketed RESP investments to the new parents.

The hospital subsequently contacted police. The Ontario Securities Commission is also conducting an investigation.

"You're vulnerable," said Scarborough resident Meagan Ware, one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, who gave birth to her son James at the hospital in 2010, said in an interview on Tuesday.

"The vulnerability that you feel when you don't really know where your information — my information, as well as my child's information — has ended up," she said.

The lawsuit names as defendants Rouge Valley, the two unnamed former hospital employees, the unnamed RESP company that received the personal information, and an unnamed employee of the RESP company.

Michael Crystal, one of the lawyers representing the plaintiffs in the action, said the claim would be amended once the names of the former hospital staffers and the company are released.

"One of the first things we will be doing is bringing a motion to have the names released to us," Crystal said. "Certainly, the hospital knows who the employees were, and we have not been able to get those."

Rouge Valley spokesman David Brazeau said in an email the hospital is no longer conducting interviews on the matter.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

‘Killer app for happy condos’

Bazinga! Connecting condo residents to create community in a vertical world

Canada’s biggest condo developer, Tridel, has partnered with social network site Bazinga! in an effort to boost the sense of community — and connection — in its vertical cities.

Tridel has been testing the online and mobile platform — touted as “the killer app for happy condos” — in four new GTA condo buildings and plans to expand it, over time, across all its projects.

The two-year-old upstart site is now in almost 100,000 condo and some rental homes across the country, says founder and CEO of the Vancouver-based Bazinga!, Joseph Nakhla.

Bazinga! is more than just a Facebook for highrise buildings, stresses Tridel vice-president of sales and marketing Jim Ritchie.

Not only has it helped residents connect to find tennis partners and help with dog walking, the app has given the developer new insights into its buyers.

“It’s a real-life laboratory. This isn’t just a tool for neighbours to get acquainted, it enables them to have conversations with each other and with building managers where communication is typically one-sided, going out,” says Andrea DelZotto, a spokesperson for Tridel.

In addition to making social connections, residents can use the private site to book building amenities, access details on condo rules and centralize pesky but important appliance manuals.

It even provides a 24/7 forum for asking questions and raising concerns about issues in the building, under the watchful eyes of property managers.

“You can take peoples’ concerns and turn them into opportunities,” says Ritchie.

If nothing else, he says, Bazinga! is a neat replacement for all those peg boards and paper notes that have graced highrise lobbies over the years. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tridel’s Jim Ritchie says the app is more than just a Facebook for highrise buildings. RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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*Complete Terms & Conditions are available at bmo.com/get2000 [1]A short haul flight is a return flight with origin and destination within the same province and having a departure date during low season of Jan. 8–Feb. 28; Apr. 1–May 31; Sept. 16–Dec. 15 (excluding NWT, Yukon and Nunavut). All Rewards offered are subject to the Terms & Conditions of the AIR MILES Reward Program, are subject to change and may be withdrawn without notice. Some restrictions apply. Quantities may be limited. To redeem for Travel Rewards, you must have accumulated sufficient AIR MILES reward miles in your Dream Balance. Collectors must pay taxes, fuel surcharges and other applicable charges and fees on air travel Rewards. See www.airmiles.ca for complete details. [2]1,000 Bonus AIR MILES reward miles offer is limited to new accounts and awarded after your first card purchase. Additional 1,000 Bonus reward miles will be awarded when you spend $1,000 in net card purchases in the first three (3) months from the date your account is opened (less refunds and excluding cash advances, cash-like transactions and balance transfers). Applications must be received between May 1, 2014, and August 31, 2014. Limit of one Bonus offer per Collector Account. This offer is time limited and may be changed, extended or withdrawn at any time without notice. ®Registered trade-mark of Bank of Montreal. ®*Registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated. ®†Trademarks of AIR MILES International Trading B.V. Used under license by LoyaltyOne, Co. and Bank of Montreal.

Toronto Men’s Fashion Week to debut in August

TOM founder Jeff Rustia with Melinda Rustia at the Canada for Philippines Benefit Concert in Toronto last year. RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Joining just a handful of cities around the world, a men’s fashion week is coming to Toronto this summer.

Toronto Men’s Fashion Week, known as TOM, will host fashion shows over three days at the Evergreen Brick Works Aug. 12 to 14.

London, Paris, Florence, Milan, Singapore, Vancouver and Los Angeles also stage fashion weeks devoted to men’s wear.

“Menswear is growing exponentially,” says TOM spokesperson Anya Nordstrom. “Cultural influencers like athletes or celebrities or socialites being more open with the way they dress definitely has an influence on your average Joe who works on Bay Street and may have spent the last 20 years wearing the same black or navy suit.”

Toronto fashion week, officially World MasterCard Fashion Week, presents spring and fall collections twice a year and includes some men’s wear but focuses on women’s wear. TOM founder Jeff Rustia, who is also behind Canada Philippine Fashion Week, believes men’s wear should be a stand-alone event since it has a distinct audience, market and editorial interest.

The men’s fashion week will include an Emerging Menswear Design Award of $10,000, an initiative in collaboration with Toronto Fashion Incubator.

Organizers plan to showcase Canadian men’s wear designers Christopher Bates, Sons of Ódin, Hussein Dhalla, Pedram Karimi and others.

There will also be a suits showcase, one for international designers and an avant-garde series for designers who are “breaking the mould and setting the course for modern men’s style.”

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Women attend a prayer meeting, calling on the government to rescue the kidnapped girls of the government-run secondary school in Chibok, Nigeria. Extremists have abducted 91 more people in weekend attacks on villages in Nigeria, witnesses said Tuesday. SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boko Haram abducts 91 people: Witnesses

Deadly weekend attacks. Kidnappings come less than three months after 200 schoolgirls were taken in mass abduction

Extremists have abducted 91 more people, including toddlers as young as three, in weekend attacks on villages in Nigeria, witnesses said Tuesday, providing fresh evidence of the military's failure to curb an Islamic uprising and the government's inability to provide security.

The kidnappings come less than three months after the mass abduction of more than 200 schoolgirls, which embarrassed Nigeria's government and military because of their slow response. Those girls are still being held captive.

The most recent victims include 60 girls and women, some of whom are married, and 31 boys, witnesses said.

A local official confirmed the abductions, but security forces denied them.

There was no way to safely and independently confirm the report from Kummabza, 150 kilometres from Maiduguri, capital of Borno state and headquarters of a military state of emergency that has failed to curtail near-daily attacks by Boko Haram fighters.

Vigilante leader Aji Khalil said Tuesday the abductions took place Saturday in an attack that killed four villagers. Khalil lives in Maiduguri but gets reports daily from other vigilante groups that have had some success in repelling Boko Haram with primitive weapons.

A senior councillor from the village's Damboa local government told The Associated Press that abductions had occurred but spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to give information to reporters. He said the reports came from elderly survivors of the attack who had walked some 25 kilometres to the relative safety of other villages.

An intelligence officer with Nigeria's Department of State Security also said there had been a mass abduction, but he said it occurred in Kummabza and three nearby villages between June 13 and 15, and that no one knows the actual number abducted. He also spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters.

There was no way to reconcile the confusion, which also surrounded the first mass abduction in mid-April.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Escalating violence

Martha Mark, the mother of kidnapped schoolgirl Monica. SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Extremists bomb cities, raze villages

A strategy to rescue the girls is at an impasse. Nigeria's military has said it knows where they are but fears their abductors would kill them if military action is taken.

Boko Haram has been demanding the release of detained members, but President Goodluck Jonathan has said he will not consider a swap.

Jacob Zenn, who wrote a book about Boko Haram, said the longer the situation drags on, "Boko Haram is more likely to decide to use the girls for forced marriages instead of as bargaining chips."

This year, the Boko Haram insurgents have embarked on a two-pronged strategy — bombing in cities and a scorched-earth policy in rural areas where they are devastating villages.

On Monday, an explosion at a medical college in the northern city of Kano killed at least eight people and wounded 12, police said. It was the third bomb blast in four months in Kano.

On Saturday, Boko Haram fighters attacked four villages near Chibok, witnesses said, and 33 villagers, six vigilantes and about two dozen Boko Haram fighters were killed.

Boko Haram — the nickname means "Western education is sinful" — wants to enforce Islamic law throughout the country.

The group evolved five years ago from an Islamic sect that preached against the corruption that keeps most Nigerians impoverished despite their country's oil wealth. Those efforts expanded into a violent movement that initially targeted government and security officials, but now attacks indiscriminately.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KFC. Probe doesn't find evidence worker asked scarred child to leave

Fried-chicken chain KFC said two different investigations have not found any evidence that an employee asked a three-year-old girl and family members to leave because her severe facial injuries, suffered in a pit bull mauling, disturbed customers.

KFC spokesman Rick Maynard said Tuesday the company considered the matter closed after an internal investigation by the franchise restaurant in Jackson and an independent probe. Maynard said the company would honour its commitment to donate $30,000 to help with medical bills for Victoria Wilcher.

"Like the rest of America, the KFC family has been moved by the story of Victoria's injuries and recovery," Maynard said. "We hope everyone keeps Victoria in their thoughts and prayers. She will certainly be in ours."

Allegations that Victoria was asked to leave the restaurant were made earlier this month on the Facebook site Victoria's Victories, which follows her recovery from the April attack.

In a statement, Hannon Food Services, which operates the restaurant, said the company was deeply troubled by the allegation. As part of its investigation, Hannon said it spent hundreds of hours reviewing surveillance video, interviewing employees and hired the outside investigator. The company said it would reach out to the child's family for additional discussions.

Jackson attorney Bill Kellum, in a statement Tuesday afternoon on behalf of the child's family, said Victoria's grandmother, Kelly Mullins, stands by her claim of what happened at the restaurant.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Victoria Wilcher FACEBOOK

Medical bills

$30K

KFC says it will honour a commitment to donate $30,000 to help with Victoria Wilcher's medical bills.

Egypt. President won't interfere in verdicts against three journalists

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi on Tuesday rejected calls from the United States and other Western governments that he pardon or commute the sentences of an Egyptian-Canadian journalist and two of his Al-Jazeera colleagues who were all handed heavy prison terms a day earlier in a court ruling that raised international outrage.

El-Sissi's tough stance reflected an image the former army chief has sought to project to the Egyptian public — one of a strong leader defying foreign pressure on Egypt. Nationalist media bolstered that narrative Tuesday, praising the verdicts as a sign of the judiciary standing up to outside interference.

El-Sissi said he would not interfere in court rulings or the judicial process. Legal experts said that doesn't rule out a pardon later after any appeals are exhausted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The trial

- Egyptian-Canadian Mohamed Fahmy, Australian Peter Greste and Egyptian Baher Mohamed were charged with helping the Brotherhood, which Egypt's government has declared a terrorist group, and with falsifying their coverage of protests by Morsi supporters in order to damage Egypt's security.
- Greste and Fahmy were sentenced to seven years in prison and Mohamed to 10 years.
- Rights groups described their five-month trial as a sham, with no evidence presented to back the charges.

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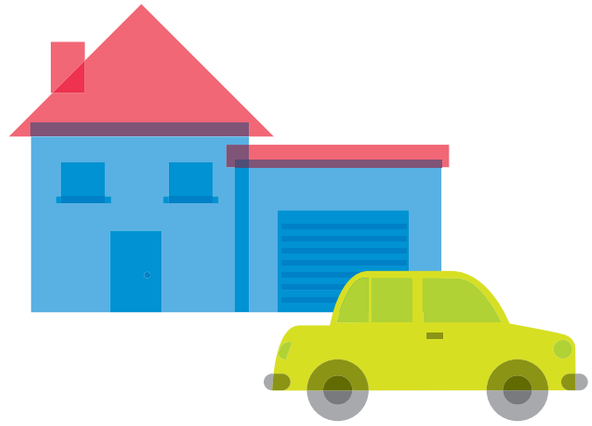

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Tribute to moms from MacKay raises eyebrows

Mother's, Father's Day messages.
Women saluted for changing diapers, packing lunches, while men shape 'minds and futures' of leaders

Justice Minister Peter MacKay in the House of Commons June 18.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justice Minister Peter MacKay raised eyebrows in his department with two very different tributes to female and male employees for Mother's Day and Father's Day this year.

Emails obtained by The Canadian Press show that in May, MacKay saluted mothers in the department for holding down two full-time jobs — at home and at work.

"By the time many of you have arrived at the office in the morning, you've already changed diapers, packed lunches, run after school buses, dropped kids off at daycare, taken care of an aging loved one and maybe even thought about dinner," MacKay said of the moms in a staff-wide memo that went out to thousands of employees before Mother's Day.

The email didn't get much reaction internally until the Father's Day version arrived a month later.

It made no mention of any household duties, but said the men were "shaping the minds and futures of the next generation of leaders."

The Mother's Day message does not touch on the impact the women have on their children's futures.

MacKay's office did not respond to a request for an interview or to take questions by phone. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A silent euthanasia protest

Anti-euthanasia demonstrators dressed as mime artists hold placards near the Eiffel Tower in Paris. A French court ruled Tuesday that doctors can turn off life support for Vincent Lambert, 38, left comatose by a car accident six years ago. MICHEL EULER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Punishable by death

LGBT rights need protection: U.S.

With anti-gay laws taking root in nearly 80 countries, White House National Security Adviser Susan Rice said Tuesday that protecting gays from global discrimination, abuse and even death is the most challenging international human rights issue facing the United States.

Seven countries have laws imposing death sentences for gay sex.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zoo bans woman

Jumps fence to feed lions cookies

Memphis Zoo officials have banned a woman after saying she climbed over a barrier to the lions' enclosure and tried to feed them cookies.

Only wire separates guests from the lions inside the enclosure.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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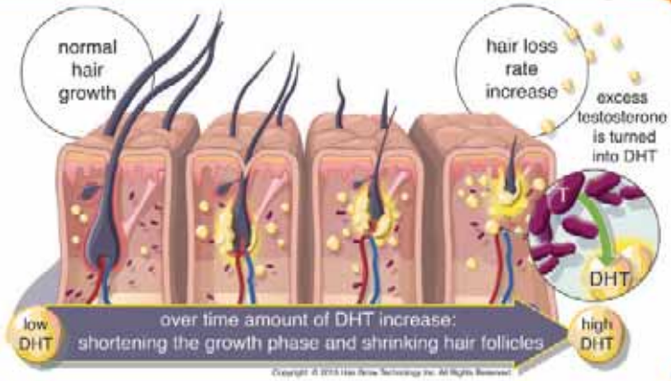
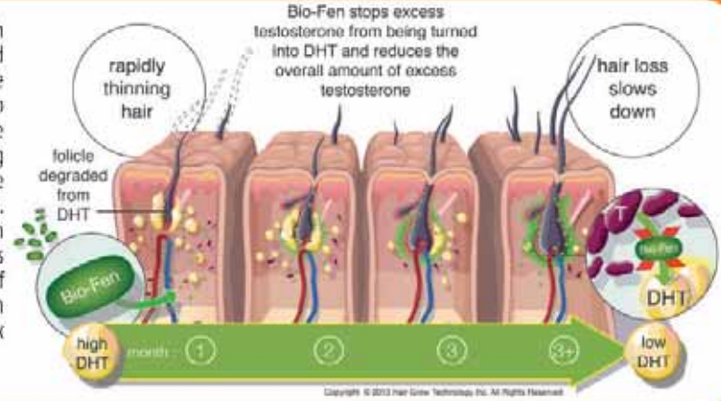

normal hair growth
hair loss rate increase
excess testosterone is turned into DHT
DHT
low DHT
over time amount of DHT increase:
shortening the growth phase and shrinking hair follicles
high DHT

How does Bio-Fen® PLUS work?

The fenugreek seed extract in both formulas reduces excess blood lipid levels. Fenugreek contains an active plant sterol, which has been shown to inhibit 5-alpha-reductase activity – the enzyme responsible for converting excess testosterone to *DHT* (which is the primary molecule that causes hair loss). The SDG from flax lignans in both formulas also decreases excess cholesterol - the building block of testosterone. Based on new research on the rate of metabolism of SDG in flax lignans (8-12 hours on average).



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Bio-Fen® Plus for Men capsules are usually effective at stopping hair loss within the first two months. However, since healthy hair grows only about 1 cm each month, it may take up to three months before you notice that hair growth is increased or the rate of hair loss is decreased. Anyone experiencing new growth should see it within four months. Once you stop completely your hair growth pattern will slowly go back to the point where you started.

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METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING

Legal Matters

Cycling and the law

Patrick Brown, Personal Injury Alliance

Q How great is the risk of serious injury to cyclists?

A Toronto has one of the highest collision rates per capita for cyclists of any large Canadian city. More than 1,000 bicycle riders are injured here each year — and the real figure is much higher since an estimated 80 per cent go unreported. Much still needs to be done to increase safety, including increased investment in bike lanes, the addition of side-guards on heavy trucks and the adoption of a complete streets policy by road authorities.

Q If someone is seriously injured in a cycling accident, what rights do they have?

A A cyclist who is injured in a collision with a motor vehicle has a right to sue the at-fault motorist. But the case can be complicated because the amount of compensation they are entitled to will depend on the injuries sustained, the precautions the cyclist took or didn't take (such as use of a helmet and lights, and following the rules of the road), and of course, the negligence of the driver.

Q If someone is seriously injured in a cycling accident, what kind of lawyer should they hire?

A As in all personal injury cases of a serious nature, it is important to hire a lawyer that specializes in personal injury and has a track record for successfully handling similar cases. Personal injury lawyers, such as those of the Personal Injury Alliance, who work with victims of cycling accidents and their families, have a front-row seat to the aftermath of these collisions. They understand the devastating impact these accidents have on victims and their loved ones, and advocate for the rights of cyclists who have been injured or killed.

For more information, visit pialaw.ca/cycling.

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Art or insensitive?

Hudson's Bay Co.

Retailer pulls T-shirt after uproar, but the Canadian-born designer stands by his use of the quote 'Nothing Tastes As Good As Skinny Feels'

The Hudson's Bay Company removed a T-shirt from its stores Tuesday when customers cried foul on Twitter. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Hudson's Bay Co. is pulling a T-shirt from its stores after a backlash unfolded on social media tied to an eyebrow-raising message on the garment.

The T-shirt bears an infamous quote by British supermodel Kate Moss that says, "Nothing Tastes As Good As Skinny Feels."

The quote is shown inside a mockup of a nutrition label with the calorie count listed as zero.

After igniting some criticism online, Hudson's Bay tweeted from its official account that the T-shirt was being removed from stores and online immediately.

The retailer confirmed the move to pull the garment in an official statement to The Canadian Press on Tuesday.

"We always take into consideration what our customers want and need in our offerings and constantly evaluate the products we provide," a portion of the statement read.

"We truly value our relationship with our customers and take their concerns seriously and we recognize that many took offence to the item. In this particular instance, while we respect the designer's art, due to the overwhelming response and the sensitivity of the matter, we made the decision to promptly remove the T-shirts from our stores and from thebay.com."

The Canadian-born designer of the T-shirt issued his own statement on Tuesday in the wake of the controversy.

Christopher Lee Sauvé said allegations that the shirt is celebrating the severity of eating disorders "is just not the case."

Sauvé said that as an artist, he got his start mocking the fashion industry. While he said it's an industry he's long followed and admired, it's also one that "begs to be mocked."

"Fashion is created to be either celebrated, adored, or hated and deplored. Quite like the industry itself," the New York-based Sauvé said. "The particular T-shirt in question showcases an infamous quote by supermodel Kate Moss as a nutrition label. Like all of my designs, it's a glorified warning, an ode to the farcicality of the fashion industry and the obsessives that surround it.

"Most if not all of my designs showcase some type of statement pointing out the absurdity of fashion, and this one item is no exception," he added. "I fully understand and comprehend the severity of an eating disorder and I do not condone celebrating such pain. My sincerest apologies to anyone that I have offended with my designs. I believe wholeheartedly in my work, however, and I can't apologize for that." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bacterial contamination

FDA warns Quebec flu vaccine plant

The company that makes about half of Canada's seasonal flu vaccine order and has the country's pandemic flu vaccine contract has been issued a warning from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration over problems with bacterial contamination in its Ste. Foy, Que., manufacturing facility.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 93.08¢ (-0.15¢)

TSX 14,962.37 (-143.26)

OIL $106.03 US (-$0.14)

GOLD $1,321.30 US (+$2.90)

Natural gas: $4.52 US (+$0.08)
Dow Jones: 16,818.13 (-119.13)

Social media. Businesses a bit socially awkward online

Canadian businesses are becoming increasingly active on mediums like LinkedIn and Twitter, but too many remain socially awkward, and it's hurting their bottom line.

"Companies are starting to engage in an authentic way with Canadians and that's leading to increased sales, increased customer service satisfaction and a sense of connectedness," said Ian Capstick, managing partner at Ottawa-based consulting firm MediaStyle.

"But, let's be honest, not all Canadian companies are quite there yet. You can still find lots of dormant Twitter accounts, websites that aren't updated, store hours on a door front, for instance, that don't match the digital store hours or the ones on Google."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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INSUFFERABILITY EMISSIONS DOWN

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Good news!

The Global Insufferability Index (GII) is down slightly today.

For those of you not familiar with the GII, it's the measure of the amount of holier-than-thou self-righteousness in the atmosphere, and it experienced a sharp drop when we learned about the Greenpeace executive who commuted by air between Luxembourg where he lives and Amsterdam where he works, 400 kilometres one way.

As a result of his commute, Pascal Husting, the environmental organization's international program director, personally has been responsible for dumping 7.4 tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere over the last two years.

This comes from an organization that says: "In terms of damage to the climate, flying is 10 times worse than taking the train." But Husting didn't want to endure the 12-hour return trip, so he flew instead, (as would any sane person).

As you might imagine, his colleagues are gasping a bit for air. All over the planet, Greenpeace faces are red.

In his blog, the executive director of Greenpeace UK asks the question: "What kind of compromises do you make in your efforts to try to make the world a better place?"

And then, without waiting for an answer he may not like, he answers his own question: "For what it's worth, I don't think we've crossed the line here at Greenpeace."

Of course, that doesn't clear the air for all those Greenpeace volunteers who have made the hard choices and now find themselves underwriting airline travel for their trusty stewards of the environment. One guy, who has volunteered since the '80s, calls the situation "unbelievable."

So now they know what it's like for the rest of us: It ain't easy being green. If they were really honest, the rainbow warriors of Greenpeace would add up ALL of their carbon-emitting activities. And then stay home, which is probably the greenest thing they could do.

As much as there's a temptation to gloat, we have to be careful about the GII. And we don't want to discourage all those people who are trying to save the planet. We just want them to ask: Are we part of the solution…or part of the problem?

Other organizations are quietly doing their best to put environmental standards in places that don't require a circus act — in construction, waste management, transportation, the food industry, etc. They don't make headlines, but they do make it possible for 7.2 billion people to make it through another day on earth.

Global warming is one of the great challenges of the age. But it's not the only one. Insufferability is right up there.

Greenpeace, at least, will be a little more down to earth — literally. Starting next week, Greenpeace has announced, Pascal Husting will start taking the train.

MUD MAN

A resident covered in mud and wrapped in dried banana leaves makes the rounds of houses to beg for candles prior to attending a mass to celebrate the Feast Day of St. John the Baptist in northern Philippines Tuesday. For more images of the festival, scan this photo with your Metro News app. ALL PHOTOS BULLIT MARQUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

B-day celebration for the Baptist

In the village of Bibiclat in Nueva Ecija province, people transform themselves into taong putik (mud people) by covering themselves in mud and wearing costumes made from dried banana leaves.

This tradition represents the way John the Baptist disguised himself when he baptized Jesus Christ. The people say St. John saved the lives of residents of this village.

Another tradition, the Parada ng Lechon (Parade of Roasted Pigs), is observed in Balayan, Batangas province. Roasted pigs are dressed up and paraded through the streets.

Crowds try to douse the pigs in wigs and their bearers with water or beer to represent the baptism. The festival ends with a feast of, what else? Roasted pig.

IBTIMES.CO.UK

A day like no other

- Throughout the Philippines, giant water-fights are held during the Festival of St. John.
- St. John the Baptist is the only saint whose birthday is celebrated in the Christian liturgy; all others are observed on the day of their death.

METRO AUGMENTED REALITY

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MetroTube

A little consensual violence never hurt

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Remember a while ago when that beautiful video of strangers kissing turned out to be just another viral publicity stunt? Remember what a slap in the face that was to those of us with quaint ideas like love, happiness and human connection?

Well, Max Landis remembers. And rather than move on to the next thing like the rest of us, he took a stand by arranging a little consensual slapping among strangers to illustrate how we all felt.

And, yes. That is Haley Joel Osment. (uptomyknees/YouTube)

SCREENGRAB

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▸Charles Spearin (Broken Social Scene)
▸Alanna Stuart (Bonjay) ▸More to come!

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Bay-ing for Transformers

Blowed-up-real-good box-office bonanza.
Critics may hate Michael Bay's schtick, but his flicks are hits

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Director Michael Bay once said he doesn't make movies for critics. The auteur behind such hits as The Rock, Armageddon, Bad Boys 1 and 2 and the Transformers movies is best known for making big, loud films that rake it in at the box office but leave critics reaching for the Advil.

Bay acknowledged the adversarial relationship in a 2005 article by Rene Rodriguez.

"They castrate me," he told Rodriguez. "They call me the devil and all that crap."

It's not hard to see why reviewers have a hard time with his films. He never met a building or car or city he didn't want to blow up in spectacular fashion, and critics often feel like they have to slather on SPF 70 to avoid getting a tan from the glare off the giant fireballs that light up screen in Bay's films.

Audiences, however, have flocked to his flicks. According to boxofficemojo.com his 10 features have grossed close to $2 billion. That's a lot of beans.

The release this weekend of Transformers: Age of Extinction promises to add to those totals. The fourth installment of the franchise stars Mark Wahlberg as a single father and struggling inventor who discovers the deactivated Autobots leader Optimus Prime.

The movie promises a whole new raft of Transformers, including bounty hunter Lockdown and the rough and tumble Dinobot Grimlock. Bay promises we'll also see an "angry Optimus Prime."

Will the critics like Age of Extinction? Who knows.

The Transformers movies are as close to guaranteed hits as Hollywood has these days, so reviews most likely won't matter to the box office.

Years ago, I wrote this about his trademarked aural and optical onslaught:

"The former commercial director has a knack for making everything look shiny, but having great taste doesn't make a great film director any more than great taste makes a Snicker's bar a gourmet meal."

I even coined a word for his style: Hullabayloo. But nothing I or any other critic writes matters to the director.

"I've actually stopped reading (reviews)," he told Rodriguez.

Nicola Peltz plays Tessa and Mark Wahlberg plays Cade Yeager in Transformers: Age of Extinction. CONTRIBUTED

AUGMENTED REALITY

→ What does it take to reboot a franchise? Scan this photo with your Metro News app for a video of Transformers' director Michael Bay talking about breathing new life into this series of robots in disguise!

metro AR → See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Cancel the stunt doubles

Stars feel the heat of real explosions

"We were happy to do whatever was asked of us whenever it was asked of us," says Transformers: Age of Extinction star Jack Reynor.

The actor proved he was game for anything when he was given just 20 minutes to prepare for a wild scene that brought him face-to-face with real explosions.

"It is an incredibly intimidating experience in many ways," he said, "but at the end of the day you have to trust the people around you."

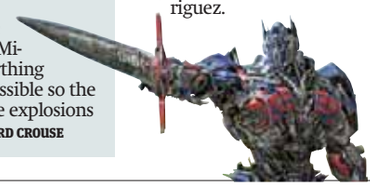
Sharing the explosive scene with Reynor were his co-stars Nicola Peltz and Mark Wahlberg.

"They worked so hard to make this huge explosion," says Peltz, best known for her role as Bradley Martin on Bates Motel. "I think it took a week, but we didn't know about it. We were kind of confused when we got on set and saw 10 cameras. (Director) Michael (Bay) told us a few minutes before, 'You're going to do this huge stunt. It's not going to be stunt doubles, it's going to be you guys and you have to run from here to here in 4.6 seconds.'

"There's not much acting when there are real explosions behind you," she says. "You just have to run."

The experience of sprinting away from live blasts wasn't exactly what Peltz expected when she signed on for the role in the fourth Transformers film.

"I thought there was going to be more green screen than there actually was, but Michael wants everything to be as real as possible so the car chases and the explosions are all real." RICHARD CROUSE



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Noah Cyrus ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Miley's younger sister has an unusual summer job

Miley Cyrus has a job for her 14-year-old sister, Noah Cyrus, that some critics might find a tad inappropriate for the young teen.

Miley tells Australia's 2Day FM radio station that Noah works as her "p—sy police" to prevent the singer's privates from becoming exposed during her vigorous dance routines in skimpy costumes. "She makes sure that, you know, everything is staying intact," Miley explains. As summer jobs go, it at least beats having a paper route. "She's a natural entertainer. When I'm with her I'll feel like sometimes, 'Oh my God, she's totally stealing my shine,'" Miley says of the possibility of her younger sister following her into show business. "She gets more attention than me. And she's kind of like a natural at it, so I feel like if she wanted to do it, I wouldn't stop her."

Taylor Swift

Taylor Swift is 24 going on 50, according to pal Ed Sheeran

Singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran has some insight into pal Taylor Swift's personality.

"I know she's 24, but she's a sort of middle-aged woman trapped in a 24-year-old's body," Sheeran tells MTV. "She hangs out with her cat and sews things." Case in point? Swift — whom Sheeran calls "very crafty" — gifted Sheeran with a needlepoint of a Drake lyric, which Sheeran happily had framed. It's unclear whether Swift is upset about having her dowdiness exposed, but at least for Sheeran's sake she just writes songs about ex-boyfriends and not regular friends.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Joan Rivers takes a swipe at K. Stew in new book

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Kristen Stewart doesn't take kindly to the implication that she sleeps around to get roles: She's threatened to sue Joan Rivers if she sees it in print.

Rivers' new book, Diary of a Mad Diva, includes a pointed crack about the Twilight actress. "Many stars only do one thing well. The best one-trick pony is Kristen Stewart, who got a whole career by being able to juggle a director's b—s," Rivers wrote.

All the world knows that Stewart did cheat on then-boyfriend Robert Pattinson with director Rupert Sanders, but it would be a stretch to say that doing so gave her a career — Sanders directed her in Snow White and the Huntsman, not, you know, one of those little vampire movies she did.

Plus, Stewart's had a thriving career since she was a teen, which makes the allegation even more unsavoury.

Stewart dispatched a lawyer to make these points to Rivers' people, according to Page Six. It sounds unlikely that Rivers will apologize or revise, however. The book's prologue reads: "Anyone who takes anything in this book seriously is an idiot."

Which is probably the closest Joan Rivers gets to issuing an apology.

Leonardo DiCaprio

What's eating Leonardo DiCaprio?

A note to fans of Leonardo DiCaprio: The Wolf of Wall Street star is happy to acknowledge you should you meet each other, but he doesn't necessarily want there to be a record of the occasion.

According to the New York Post, DiCaprio was partying with A Tribe Called Quest rapper Q-Tip in New York City's Meatpacking District recently when a blonde fan celebrating her birthday "fell into their area" and introduced herself.

DiCaprio said "'Happy birthday' to the girl," according to a source, but when she asked to have her picture taken with him, "he responded, 'Sorry, not tonight.'"

Kristen's expecting another baby Bell

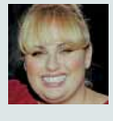
Kristen Bell is pregnant once again. The Frozen star's rep confirms that Bell and husband Dax Shepard are expecting their second child, according to People magazine.

"The whole family is beyond excited," the rep says. Bell and Shepard are already parents to one-year-old daughter Lincoln Bell. They were married in 2013.

Kristen Bell

Twitter

@simonpegg
Bit random but I think my all time favourite season finale might be 'Restless', Buffy S4. Quite a convention breaker.



@RebelWilson
Hey guys, just to be clear, if you see an ad for some weight loss product with my name and picture on it, it is 100% not me. Some bs scam!

@kirstiealley
I'm all chatty today but found ANOTHER baby bird ...jeez somehow they all fall into my yard..gotta go feed ..:).. have a great summer day!

Coming up the Causeway

Northern Ireland. If you're in the mood for wondrous scenery and a little bit of whiskey, try striking out on the Causeway Coastal Route this summer

ANDREW JOHN VIRTUE DOBSON
dobbernationloves.com
@dobbernation

The Giant's Causeway is Northern Ireland's only UNESCO World Heritage Site. PHOTOS: ANDREW DOBSON/METRO

Northern Ireland's famed Causeway Coastal Route is rated as one of the world's great road journeys. This past May it was in the international spotlight as the scenic backdrop to the Giro d'Italia's Big Start cycle race, which was watched by over 775 million people around the world.

The 200 kilometres of stunning coastline offers twists and turns that reveal windswept cliffs, ancient cathedrals, crumbling castles, quaint farms, villages and unspoiled beaches. Here are four attractions along the Causeway Coast:

Titanic Belfast

Perhaps the most famous vessel ever launched, RMS Titanic was built in Belfast's Harland & Wolff shipyard for White Star Line. When her keel was laid in 1909, Belfast was at the height of its fame as a shipbuilding powerhouse. Today Belfast's star attraction is Titanic Belfast, a world-class museum which sits where the original ship was constructed. The six-floor building features nine interactive galleries that explore the Titanic.

The Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge

This bridge is a 20 metre-long, one metre-wide bridge of wire rope that spans the chasm between sea cliffs and the island of Carrick-a-Rede. It sways gently, 30 metres above rock-strewn water. The island has sustained a salmon fishery for centuries; fishermen stretch nets out from the tip of the island to intercept salmon migrating to their home rivers.

Giant's Causeway

When you first see it, you'll understand why the ancients believed the Giant's Causeway was not a natural feature. The vast expanse of closely packed, hexagonal stone columns dipping gently beneath the waves looks like the handiwork of giants. This spectacular rock formation is Northern Ireland's only UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is one of the Emerald Isle's most impressive and atmospheric features.

Bushmills

The small town of Bushmills has long been a pilgrimage for connoisseurs of Irish whiskey, and for good reason: The Old Bushmills Distillery is the world's oldest, granted a licence by King James I in 1608.

Tours offer guests an in-depth look into Bushmills' history and the production of its world renowned whiskey. Friendly guides take guests through the property, making stops at the production facility, barrel aging hanger, whimsical bottling plant and tasting room.

AUGMENTED REALITY

→ Want to see more photos of the Causeway Coast? Scan this photo with your Metro News app for a gallery..

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→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

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STEVE GOW
life@metronews.ca

The Icefields Parkway stretches between Jasper and Banff and offers lots of opportunity for wildlife watching. ISTOCK

There's nothing quite as much fun as hitting the highway in the middle of summer. With car windows rolled down, Canada has some of the most remarkable road trips on the planet.

Whether you have days to spend (or just a few hours), treat yourself to some freeway freedom this summer by taking one of these three journeys.

The Sea-to-Sky Highway
Vancouver to Whistler, B.C.
Approximately a two-hour drive from Vancouver to Whistler, Highway 99 provides breathtaking seaside vistas and stunning waterfalls as it winds through the Coast Mountains.

Easily one of the most gorgeous drives in Canada, it also celebrates the area's First Nations history with many interpretive kiosks along the way — as well as the fascinating Britannia Mine Museum, where visitors can travel deep into what was once the Commonwealth's largest copper mine.

If You're Hungry: Stop at The Watershed Grill in Shannon Falls and grab a seat on the patio overlooking the peaceful Squamish River.

Cabot Trail
Cape Breton, N.S.
A curvy, two-lane blacktop that circles Cape Breton Island, Cabot Trail may be a four-hour drive from Halifax, but it's worth the venture.

The Sea-to-Sky Highway in British Columbia. COURTESY TRAVEL BC

The Cabot Trail circles Cape Breton Island. ISTOCK

Start at the southern tip in Baddeck where Alexander Graham Bell lived. After a visit to the telephone inventor's national historical site, head north to enjoy amazing views from the rocky cliffs overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

As you circle the route, take in sandy beaches and whale watching in Ingonish and enjoy the French spoken in the Acadian capital of Cheticamp.

If You're Hungry: Be sure to savour freshly caught, hand-gathered Asby Bay oysters at Hideaway Campground and Oyster Market at the top of the Cabot Trail.

The Rocky Mountains
Banff to Jasper, Alta.
There's almost no imperfect route through the Rockies. However, for first-timers, begin in Banff (90 minutes from Calgary) where you can bask in the beauty of Canada's first national park and hot springs before heading north through the stunning, mountainous Icefields Parkway to Jasper.

Besides magnificent mountainous scenery, look for wildlife including bears and elk, explore historical buildings or simply hike.

Make time to discover Lake Louise, where visitors are rewarded by a graceful glacial basin below the towering peaks.

If You're Hungry: Try the deli (or make dinner reservations) at popular Sunwapta Falls Lodge, where you can dine and enjoy the panoramic views along the Icefields Parkway.

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What World Pride means for tourism

A giant balloon at last year's Pride Toronto festival advertises World Pride, which is being held in the city this year through June 29. CONTRIBUTED

Beyond the rainbow.
Hotels and restaurants have gone far past just flying a flag for their gay and lesbian patrons

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

World Pride 2014 has painted Toronto in rainbow colours this week. I asked Darrell Schuurman, co-founder of Travel Gay Canada, about the importance of gay and lesbian tourism.

Is it significant that Toronto is hosting World Pride 2014?
Pride is a celebration of LGBT individuals, recognizing everything we have gone through to get where we are. Having this global celebration come to Canada for its North American debut raises our profile and shows the world how inviting and open this country is to LGBT travellers. It's also important to note that despite all of our progress, such as the legalization of same-sex marriage, there is still work that needs to be done. The World Pride celebration will include a human rights conference that is going to showcase the need to continue the dialogue on international gay rights and human rights around the world.

What about the economic benefit?
World Pride will be one of the biggest festivals in Toronto this year. Research shows that the Canadian LGBT market in general is worth $8.5 billion; 56 per cent of that money is spent on travel within Canada. Gay and lesbian travellers have the interest in and ability to travel. The key for businesses is to remember it's not just about flying a rainbow flag. Do your homework first and gain an understanding of this market's needs and expectations.

What are some of those expectations?
You need to make a commitment to the community. Businesses need to get involved on a local level and support gay and lesbian causes and organizations. Hotels need to show that their staff has undergone diversity and sensitivity training; the concierge, for example, should be able to tell a gay traveller where there are gay restaurants and bars and what LGBT events are going on in the destination. In many ways the needs of an LGBT traveller mirror those of a mainstream traveller. They want to enjoy all of the same attractions and activities and feel safe doing it.

How would you know if a hotel has put their staff through training?
Look on their websites for endorsements or affiliations from organizations like Travel Gay Canada or the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association. To be part of those organizations, hotels have to meet criteria on ethical business practices and have front-line staff participate in diversity and sensitivity training.

Bucket list

Enjoy taste of luxe life in Monaco

With a new movie about the immortal Princess Grace of Monaco having debuted at the Cannes Film Festival this year, and the Formula 1 Grand Prix over and done with, it might just be time for you to wander over for a fairy-tale weekend.

Monaco is a great addition to a trip to France, especially if your itinerary includes Nice, which is just 20 miles away.

And while some of your save/splurge strategy should include a night in one of the many exclusive hotels (Hôtel de Paris or the Monte-Carlo Beach Hôtel, just to name two), there are affordable accommodations, too.

You can rent a small flat, stay in nearby Roquebrune-Cap Martin or Nice, or scour the last-minute sites — all options that can help make that bottle of champagne at lunch more reasonable.

Besides museums, monuments and beautiful gardens, this thoroughly manageable principality also has concerts and festivals, casinos and breathtaking views to eat up your time. Well spent!

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Rome. Restoration experts get to the root of the problem in Nero's palace

Experts say they've discovered how to rescue Nero's underground Golden Palace from further decay and eventually reopen the ruins of the ancient emperor's entertainment complex to the public: uproot the trees in the park above it.

Archeologists and restoration experts said last week that research, including digital simulations, aimed at solving the Domus Aurea's chronic humidity problems indicates that removing the trees will help prevent further damage. Currently tree roots and rainwater sink into the walls, damaging frescoes and causing parts of the ceiling to fall off.

"It's a radical choice, but we have to do it," said Fedora Filippi, director of the restoration effort. "It's either the roots or the Golden Palace." She said flowers, which have less-invasive roots, could be planted.

Also being developed is a system to expel humid air, as well as a three-layer drainage structure to prevent water infiltration. The nearly 2,000-year-old structure under the Oppian Hill was opened with much fanfare in 1999 after being closed for nearly two decades for fear of collapse. Visitors could explore Nero's pleasure-playground, including the maze of passageways lined with frescoes that had inspired many Renaissance artists some 500 years ago.

But persistent structural problems continued to threaten the ceilings. The palace has remained closed since 2010 after a huge chunk of its vaulted ceiling collapsed.

Italy hopes a new law giving generous tax breaks to those funding restorations will help pay for at least some of the $42 million project.

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How-to

COURTESY NBTC

Cosy up to foreign travel

Geneviève LeBrun from Air Transat shares some tips for making Europe less daunting:
1. Get a direct flight to minimize time navigating airport terminals.
2. Choose a destination according to your passions — a food tour in France, a soccer tournament in Barcelona.
3. You don't have to do the whole of Europe in a week. Regional tours are less tiring and you will get a better feel for the environment. DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Deal

Bargain prices for Australia off-season

Why wait until January to visit Australia when it's a) crowded and b) scorching hot? Visit this fall just as they start heading into spring. Travelzoo has some interesting deals, including a 12-night Darwin-Melbourne-Sydney package for $2,600 that includes round-trip flights from Los Angeles (you can use some points to get there), domestic flights and hotels for travel between July 24 and Sept. 17. The average highs are around 18. Visit TravelZoo.com. DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Survey

ISTOCK

More time for gizmos

Now that you don't have to power down your electronics for takeoff and landing, Expedia took a survey of how Canadian travellers will use this extra time. While a whopping 64 per cent said this wouldn't change their in-flight habits, 14 per cent said they would watch TV or movies, 12 per cent said they would play more games and only 10 per cent opted to use the extra time to work.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

World Cup

Get to know Rio de Janeiro

For one month, Brazil will be putting its best cleated foot forward as the world turns its attention to the bustling country for the duration of the FIFA World Cup. For the uninitiated, it's also a prime opportunity to become acquainted with the richly diverse economic powerhouse.

Here's a snapshot of the iconic Brazilian destination, one of 12 host cities.

- **Location:** On the western edge of Brazil, midway along the coast
- **Name:** Rio de Janeiro literally translates to 'January River'
- **Nickname:** "Marvellous City"
- **Climate:** Average temperature between 22 C and 24 C
- **Population:** 6,323,037
- **Did you know?**

Rio de Janeiro served as Brazil's capital city for nearly 200 years between 1764 and 1960 until it was replaced by Brasilia.

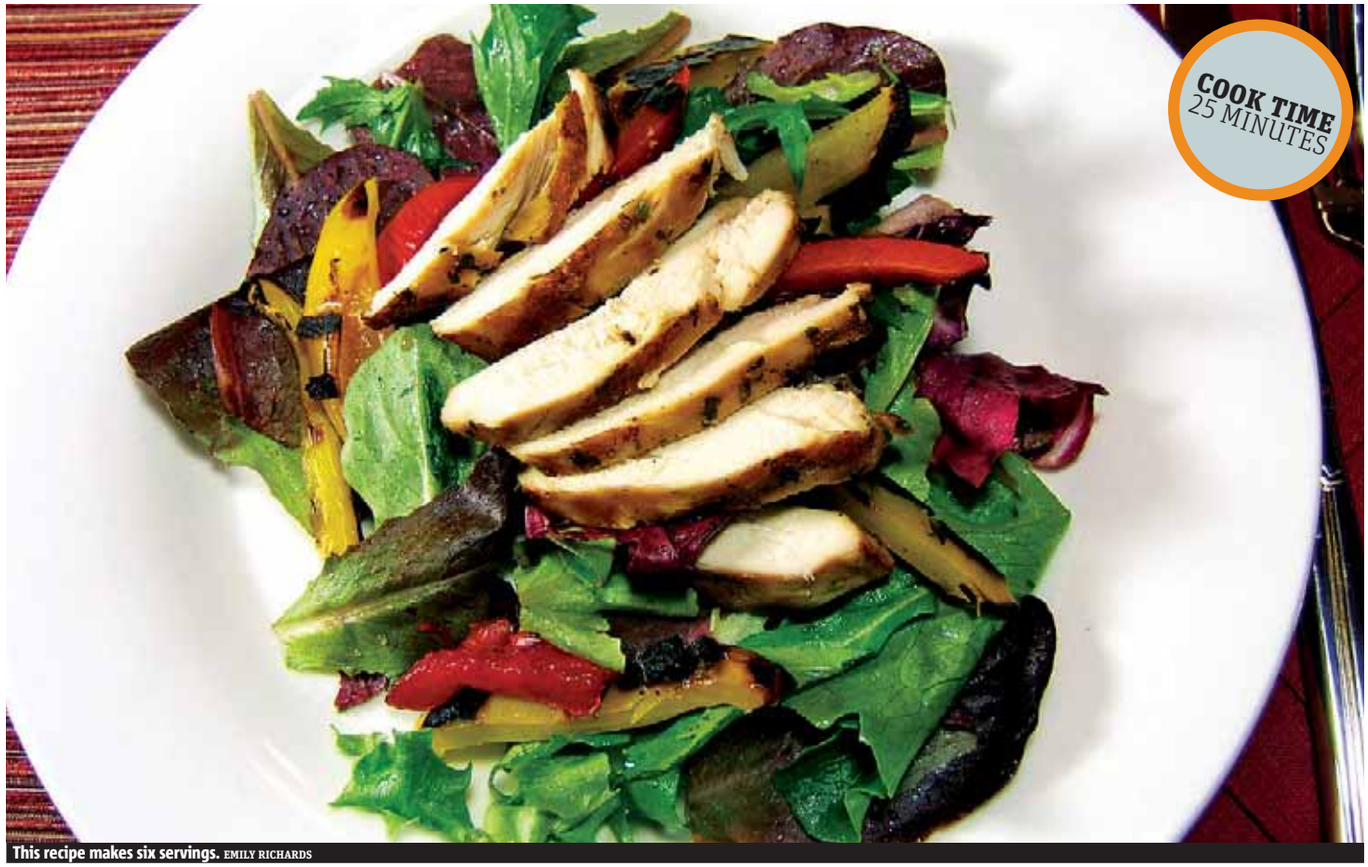
- **What to see and do:** With 197 km of coastline, a landscape that alternates between mountains, sea, tropical forests, and a pulsing, dynamic beach culture, it's no surprise that Rio is the most popular tourist destination for foreigners.

AFP

Chicken shares the grill with veg

Barbecue Chicken Salad. This outdoor dinner is perfect for those nights when you want to pass on those pesky carbs

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca



This recipe makes six servings. EMILY RICHARDS

Get your grill on and create a delicious dinner salad using chicken and vegetables.

With a smokey taste, grilling not only adds great flavour, but also texture to your vegetables.

I like marinating the chicken in the morning so that when I get home I can put everything on the grill for a weeknight meal that is fast and flavourful.

Not to worry if you can't wake up early; you can marinate it the night before.

If you have a chance to slice up your vegetables the night before, too, you'll save time.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) sodium-reduced soy sauce
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chopped cilantro
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) canola oil
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced fresh ginger
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) Asian garlic chili paste or hot pepper flakes
- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts (about 600 g total)
- 2 each red and yellow bell peppers
- 8 cups (2 l) spring greens
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) rice vinegar

Not having the right ingredients can make dinner difficult. But for this recipe, it's easy enough to pick up what you need fresh on your way home while some pantry staples are used to complete the dish.

1. In large bowl, whisk together the soy sauce, cilantro, half of the canola oil, ginger, garlic and chili paste. Add chicken breasts and toss to coat well. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or up to 1 day.

2. Meanwhile, cut peppers into quarters. Place on greased grill over medium-high heat. Grill for about 10 minutes turning often or until starting to become golden and tender crisp. Remove to plate.

3. Place chicken breasts on medium-high greased grill and grill for about 12 minutes, turning once or until no longer pink inside. Remove to plate.

4. Chop grilled peppers into bite-size pieces. In large bowl, toss peppers with spring greens, remaining oil and vinegar. Slice chicken and serve on top of salad.

Cooking tips

- Grill the chicken and peppers and keep refrigerated for up to 2 days to make the salad later in the week.
- Roasting Option: You can roast the peppers and chicken. Place vegetables on parchment paper lined baking sheet and roast in 425F (220 C) oven for about 10 minutes. Add chicken breasts and roast for another 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink inside and peppers are tender.

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A CV that sells in a few simple steps

What have you done for me lately? The perfect sales resumé prioritizes your performance history

SHAHEERAH KAYANI
TalentEgg.ca

What good is a resumé if your skills don't relate back to relevant experience?
ISTOCK

Are you passionate about selling and looking to get into a sales career?

Perhaps you've never worked directly in sales before, but now that's the path you are determined to follow.

Well, whether you've worked in sales or not, you will likely have transferable skills from past work experiences that can help you transition well into a sales role.

To put your best foot forward, it is critical that your resumé highlight your key achievements as they pertain to your sales career.

Keep in mind that a career in sales is for very competitive, ambitious and driven individuals.

For this reason, it is of the utmost importance that you highlight your specific performance based accomplishments.

Here are important things to consider including in your resumé:

Success in the specific

For each role on your resumé, you should include who you reported to, what you did and your target market.

The right details

For each company you've worked at, provide a brief description of what that company does/sells and an understanding of their size (i.e. personnel, number of offices and annual revenues).

For each role on your resumé, you should include who you reported to, what you did and your target market.

Key metrics

- Total number of accounts opened annually
- Renewal rates
- Quota and your performance against the quota in all roles
- Vertical industries called on (i.e. public sector, financial, health care)
- Type of accounts called on (i.e. small or medium business, Fortune 100)
- Products or solutions sold
- Territory (geographic, major accounts, channel partners)

Accomplishments

Outline your accomplishments at the top of your resumé in your summary of qualifications, or highlight your accomplishments separately for each of the jobs or projects listed on your resumé, for example:

- Closed largest order for the month
- Opened most new accounts annually/monthly
- Scholarships or awards
- Other

Relevant training/education

Apart from your grades, employers are interested in looking at what courses you took that are relevant to the sales role — such as a course in sales management, relationship selling, business consulting or marketing with a sales focus.

You might even want to try listing some projects that you completed in these sales-related courses with a brief description of what the project was about and your results.

Compensation structure

Most employers will be quick to ask about your compensation structure.

When applying for a sales role, be sure to point out on your resumé if you have worked commission-oriented jobs before. Heavily commission-oriented roles will stand out as relevant experience.

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A perfect pitch is music to their ears

Say what you need to say. Deliver an exceptional elevator pitch with these tips

JUSTIN MATHEWS
TalentEgg.ca

Whether you're on the market or in marketing, the elevator pitch should be at the top of your to-do list if you're someone looking to sell a product or an idea.

In today's world, that's all of us — especially if you're a young and hungry student or grad ready to hatch a career.

It's a speech that lasts anywhere from 30 seconds to one minute — roughly the length of an elevator ride — during which you sell, pitch or otherwise market your idea or product.

For job-seekers everywhere, that product or idea is you.

Your elevator pitch is your summary of who you are, what you do, and what makes you the perfect candidate. In other words, your elevator pitch is your story made "brutally simple."

Sounds easy, right? But reducing years of your experience and accomplishments into a slickly crafted 30-second punch can feel as challenging as attempting to fit a hippo into a bumper car.

Creating and delivering an elevator pitch takes some careful thought and consideration, so here are a few tips on making your elevator pitch a knockout:

Audience of many

- **Your elevator pitch is accessible if you can deliver it to a friend, an instructor, a family member and a prospective employer — without making any changes.**

Write it out

Like any good script, your pitch is that much better if written out beforehand. By writing it out, you are able to see how your pitch flows, and where it needs work — just like any other piece of writing you would work on.

Start with your resumé, which lists your professional experience and can help you get the ball rolling.

What are the major skills and experiences you want to draw attention to? You won't have time to cover everything. Remember: Your elevator pitch shouldn't last more than a full minute.

In terms of a word count, you're probably looking in the area of 120 to 150 words that make up your pitch. If your resumé is a full page long, you're looking at closer to 350 to 450 words. So break it down.

No jargon, please

In addition to precision and clarity, elevator pitches need to be accessible. That means cutting out jargon.

Here's an example of how jargon can obscure your meaning: "I contributed to audience outreach by leveraging integrated social media messaging and aligning our strategy with attention to platform-specific standards and positioning."

These are all specialized terms that may mean nothing to a potential employer. Jargon can confuse your audience, or cause them to disengage altogether. This is clearer:

"I encouraged audience engagement by building a presence on different social media platforms, making sure our strategy used each platform for unique purposes."

Write a couple of versions

In addition to being accessible, your elevator pitch needs to be versatile: easy to deliver under different circumstances without a hitch.

Instead of trying to come up with a one-size-fits-all solution, understand how you'll present yourself in different scenarios where an elevator pitch might come in handy. Pitching yourself at a networking event requires a different attitude than you might use in a job interview, for example.

Indeed, it isn't uncommon for the best job-seekers, salespeople and marketers to have several versions of their elevator pitch in their back pocket.

A good elevator pitch isn't just easy for you to deliver — it's also irresistible to the person listening.

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Pencils with a purpose

Supplies that say 'we care'

Me to We, in partnership with Staples and ACCO Brands, has launched its first line of eco-friendly school supplies with an impact. Each product purchased gives a life-changing gift directly to a child or family in a Free The Children community overseas, so they are free to learn without battling against hunger, thirst, disease and financial restraints.

Products extend from backpacks and lunch bags, to tablet sleeves and notebooks, and are made from eco-friendly materials like recycled plastic bottles and post-consumer paper. The line is now available for purchase exclusively at Staples locations across Canada or online at staples.ca/metowe.

METRO

Marc Kielburger poses with students at the official launch of Me to We's school supply line.
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The Argonauts' Jalil Carter lays a hit on the Alouettes' S.J. Green at the Rogers Centre on Sept. 3, 2013. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Carter leads Argos' new-look defence

CFL. 24-year-old the Boatmen's lone remaining defensive starter from 2012

He's entering just his third CFL season but Argonauts defensive back Jalil Carter is already a grizzled veteran.

The 24-year-old is just one of four returning starters to a Toronto defence that last year was third overall in fewest points allowed in the CFL (25.4 per game). But after finishing atop the East Division with an 11-7 record, the Argos' season ended abruptly with a 36-24 home loss to the arch-rival Hamilton Tiger-Cats in the conference final.

Carter is also the lone remaining starter from the defence that helped anchor Toronto's 35-22 win over the Calgary Stampeders in the historic 100th Grey Cup in 2012.

"Yeah, I do (feel old)," Carter said with a chuckle. "The new guys coming in, they might be the same age as me or maybe a little older but they don't have the CFL experience I do.

"It's the first time I've had this much experience over somebody but these guys are learning the system and we're working very well together. Our defensive scheme isn't too difficult so it allows us to fly around."

General manager Jim Barker says there's a good reason for the changes. Toronto hired Tim Burke as its defensive co-ordinator after Chris Jones, the architect of the 2012 championship unit, left to become the Edmonton Eskimos' head coach.

"It affects everything," Barker said. "It's a completely different style than what Chris was doing so it takes a completely different type of player.

"Yeah, we look brand new on defence but we have brand new coaches and brand new everything so that's to be expected.... When you have a new defensive co-ordinator with a completely different philosophy and scheme you expect to have a lot of changes." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Season opener

Toronto visits Winnipeg on Thursday to kick off the 2014 regular season, which will also mark the head-coaching debut of Mike O'Shea, the Argos' former linebacker and special-teams co-ordinator.

Free agency awaits

LeBron opts out of final two years of deal with Heat

LeBron James delivered his message loud and clear, without actually saying a word. He's willing to leave Miami, if that's what it will take to win more championships. And what happens next will likely be up to not just the Heat, but Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh as well.

Through his agent, James informed the Heat on Tuesday that he has decided to opt out of the final two years of his contract, a move that means he becomes a free agent on July 1. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James GETTY IMAGES

NHL Awards

Sid the Kid's got Hart for 2nd time

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby won his second Hart Trophy as the NHL's most valuable player Tuesday night at the league's post-season awards ceremony in Las Vegas.

Crosby also collected the Art Ross Trophy as the league scoring champion and the Ted Lindsay Award as the players' choice for the NHL's most outstanding player.

Other awards handed out included the Vezina Trophy which was won by Boston goalie Tuukka Rask. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trio of Canucks get past 1st round at Wimbledon

Milos Raonic won his first-round match at Wimbledon over Matthew Ebden, 6-2, 6-4, 6-4. STEVE BARDENS/GETTY IMAGES

As seeded players, Milos Raonic and Eugenie Bouchard are expected to make a lengthy run at Wimbledon.

Frank Dancevic wasn't even supposed to make the main draw. Instead, the 107th-ranked player on the ATP Tour is joining his heralded fellow Canadians in the second round at the All England Club.

Dancevic, the 29-year-old veteran from Niagara Falls, Ont., upset hard-serving Croatian Ivo Karlovic 6-4, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4) Tuesday to pick up his first win at the ATP level in almost a year.

Rough beginnings

Two-time Wimbledon champion Rafael Nadal was made to work hard for his opening-round win at Wimbledon on Tuesday, rallying from one set down before beating hard-hitting Martin Klizan of Slovakia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

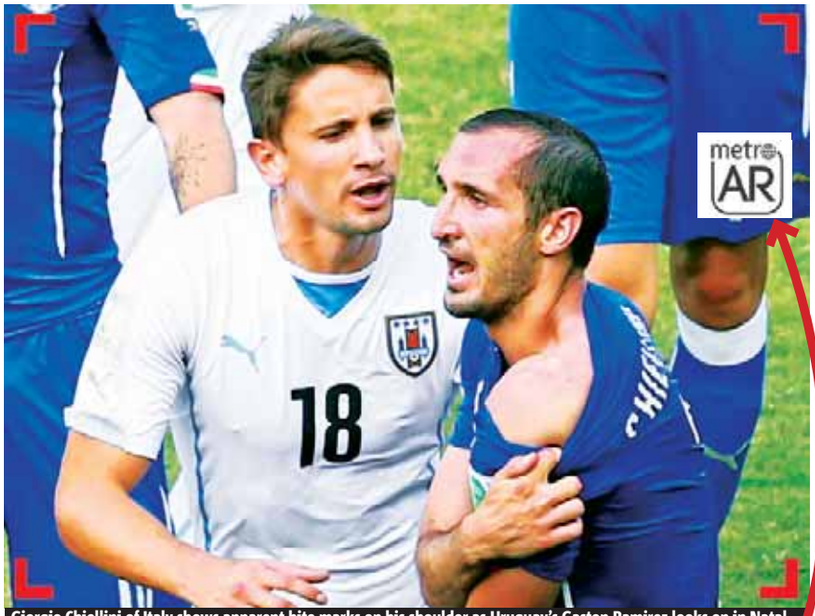
It took Dancevic two hours to overcome the 29th-seeded Karlovic, who fired 32 aces in the loss. But Dancevic never faced a break point and broke the Croatian once.

"I had to serve really well; it was my main focus," Dancevic said. "But returning was a lottery; I was just guessing."

Raonic, the No. 8 seed from Thornhill, also showed off a big serve Tuesday. He fired 30 aces — compared to two for his opponent — in a comfortable 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 win over Australia's Matthew Ebden.

The men were later joined by women's 13th seed Bouchard of Westmount, Que., who advanced with a 7-5, 7-5 win over Daniela Hantuchova. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Uruguay clamps down on Italy



Giorgio Chiellini of Italy shows apparent bite marks on his shoulder as Uruguay's Gaston Ramirez looks on in Natal, Brazil, on Tuesday. Replays seem to show Luis Suarez — who has a history of sinking his teeth into his opponents — bit the Italian. Scan the image with the Metro News app for additional photos from Tuesday's matches.

JULIAN FINNEY/GETTY IMAGES

World Cup. Suarez's apparent biting incident highlights ousting of Italians

Underscoring a power shift away from Europe, Uruguay fought — and apparently even bit — its way to a 1-0 victory over Italy Tuesday to move to the World Cup's next round with Costa Rica, which sent England home without a single victory after a goalless draw.

South America's strength was further highlighted when Colombia capped its perfect record in Group C with a 4-1 win over Japan. Europe did get one team through when Greece converted an injury-time penalty for a 2-1 victory over Ivory Coast, eliminating the African team.

The evening excitement could hardly match yet another controversy to haunt Uruguay striker Luis Suarez. Around 80 minutes in, Suarez and Giorgio Chiellini tangled, with replays showing Suarez seemingly biting the shoulder of the Italian defender. It would make Suarez, amazingly, a triple carnivorous offender on the pitch in four years.

"It was absolutely clear. There's even a mark," Chiellini said.

The referee didn't see a bite, and no foul was called. Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez only had eyes on the result. "For me, and for all the people in Uruguay, we had more important things," he said.

About a minute later, the decisive goal was scored on a powerful header from captain Diego Godin. Italy was down to 10 men since the 59th minute, when Claudio Marchisio received a red card for putting his boot into Egidio Arevalo's knee.

It was the second straight time that Italy, a four-time champion, went out in the first round.

"When you're coming off two defeats without even scoring a goal, we clearly also have to take our share of that blame," said goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, who played on his fifth World Cup squad. After the game, Italy coach Cesare Prandelli immediately resigned.

The draw against England gave Costa Rica, the surprise team of the competition, first place in Group D over three former champions, and gutted more of the European contingent at the tournament.

Uruguay will now play Colombia in an all-South American encounter, with Costa Rica taking on Greece.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"We are so disappointed not to finish with a victory, but I don't think I have asked for a much better performance." England coach Roy Hodgson

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2014 Hyundai Tucson

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel-drive compact SUV
- **Engines (hp).** 2.4-litre four-cylinder with direct gasoline injection (182)
- **Transmission.** Six-speed automatic
- **Base price.** $33,599 (plus destination fee)

Market position

The Tucson offers a variety of choices, including two engines, front- or all-wheel drive, and even a manual transmission on its base trim level, along with numerous premium features on the top-line model.

Points

- New for 2014, both engines feature direct gasoline injection, formerly found on more expensive cars. This lets engineers tweak the engines for more power and better fuel economy.
- The GLS and Limited trims come with a panoramic sunroof, which adds to the cabin's roomy feel.
- The shock absorbers automatically adjust to road conditions for a smoother, more stable ride and confident cornering.

The Tucson's pointed rear side windows cut down on visibility.
COURTESY HYUNDAI CANADA

Safety

Front, side, and curtain airbags; stability control; anti-lock brakes with brake force distribution and assist; active front head restraints

If a car and an SUV had a love child

Review. The Hyundai Tucson Limited offers all-wheel drive, tons of legroom and driver-selectable steering

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

COURTESY HYUNDAI CANADA

The compact SUV segment is one of the most popular in Canada, and it's easy to see why. These are vehicles that combine car-like driving characteristics with SUV-style practicality, and in many cases, all-wheel drive capability. Hyundai bundles all of that together in its Tucson.

Three trim lines are available, starting at $21,499 for the GL, with a 164-horsepower, 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine and front-wheel drive. Next up is the mid-range GLS, which uses a 2.4-litre four-cylinder making 182 horsepower. My tester, the top-line Limited, exclusively combines the 2.4-litre with all-wheel drive.

It's priced at $33,599 and includes such Limited-only features as dual-zone automatic climate control, premium stereo, navigation, and leather seats.

Its AWD isn't meant for off-roading, but for improved traction. The all-wheel Tucson primarily runs in front-wheel, but sends power to the rear tires when it senses slippage. For muddy or snowy driveways, you can lock it into four-wheel at low speeds.

Also included on the Limited is driver-selectable steering, which lets you adjust the steering feel to normal, comfort, or sport. I find it more of a gimmick than anything, and all but the sport are too light and vague for my liking.

The Tucson's handsome, especially with its new headlamps and, on the Limited, its LED taillights. However, while the side windows come to a stylish point at the rear, they do cut down on visibility.

The seats are supportive, and while all Tucson models have heated front chairs, the GLS and Limited have heated rear ones, too. Rear legroom is good, and while the rear seats don't fold completely flat, they're easy to operate when you need to increase the cargo area.

Overall, the Tucson rides and handles well, it's roomy inside, and it comes with a long warranty. I found the Limited a little pricey and would probably opt for the mid-range GLS, but check out the features and test-drive both of them if a compact SUV is in your future.

Compare PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

1 Subaru Forester 2.5 Limited
Base price: $32,495
All-wheel drive, comfortable seats and great driving feel make this a serious contender.

2 Ford Escape Titanium 4WD
Base price:$35,699
Turbocharged 2.0-litre EcoBoost makes 240 horsepower when needed.

3 Honda CR-V Touring
Base price: $37,323
Price a bit steep when fully loaded, but offers great road manners and smooth engine.

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5 rides worthy of TV's best antiheroes

Antiheroes on television often drive cars that reveal character truths and act as an extension of their core values. Whether they're prescient product placement or simply good prop-master juju, these are our top picks of the most badass rides in the increasingly populated universe of morally ambiguous protagonists.

MIKE DOJC
drive@metro.ca

Philip Jennings

The Americans
White 1982 Chevy Camaro Z28

Spies tend to want to drive nondescript vehicles so they blend into their surroundings. The bland 1977 Oldsmobile Delta, seemingly straight out of the KGB motor pool, that we typically see Philip and Elizabeth (Keri Russell) in while stalking the streets of suburban D.C. certainly fit the bill. But on Season 2's "New Car" episode, comrade Philip is overcome by his materialistic urges, and on a spur-of-the-moment whim splurges on a gleaming white 1982 Camaro Z28 — incidentally the pace car in the Indy 500 that year.

Dexter Morgan

Dexter
2008 Ford Escape Hybrid SUV

Who knew serial killers and soccer moms had automotive tastes in common? The 2008 Ford Escape Hybrid SUV has an efficient gasoline engine complemented by a pair of electric motors so it runs very clean, just like Dexter leaves his crime scenes. Appeasing his "Dark Passenger," the roomy trunk can fit plenty of plastic sheeting and shrink-wrap rolls along with all his other kill-room necessities. It's also got excellent safety ratings to keep Dex's mind at ease when ferrying around Harrison.

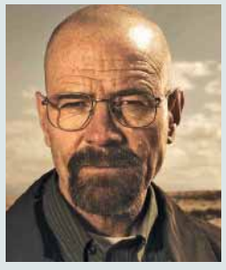
Kenny Powers

Eastbound and Down
Flame-painted lifted Dodge pickup

When your best friend overdoses on cocaine and you were always coveting his flame-painted lifted Dodge pickup, the move is to fish out his keys and just tell his family you bought an identical one. You see, a Dodge pickup with some aftermarket aggro-edge is a white-trash hero's dream machine. While his previous rides have included a three-wheeled motorcycle, Yukon Denali, and a lime-green Dodge Viper, this take-no-prisoners bad boy best encapsulates Powers' boorish mystique.

Walter White

Breaking Bad
2004 Pontiac Aztek



When the mild-mannered chemistry teacher turned stone-cold meth kingpin wasn't cooking blue, poisoning children or playing mind games with Jesse, he often tooled around Albuquerque in this widely reviled ride. Reviews were so wretched, it quickly became the Gigli of the auto industry, panned for its "what in the world was GM thinking" butt-ugliness and peculiarly angular tail end. But the Mickey Rourke of SUVs was genius car casting for Breaking Bad. This was, after all, a car that foreshadowed Detroit's dark slide into the abyss. Kudos also to the Cadillac Sedan DeVille with the turret mounted auto-firing M60 in the trunk in the series finale that rains hell on the neo-Nazi compound and provides Heisenberg with a worthy supervillain sendoff. "There's no replacement for displacement."

Tony Soprano

The Sopranos
1999 Chevy Suburban

Tony's ride for the first few Sopranos seasons was a carmine red 1999 Chevy Suburban. This 5.7-litre V8 beast is big enough to comfortably fit his actual family with room to spare for a consigliere and a couple of capos. One of the two models actually used in the show sold for $110,000 at an auction in Vegas last year. The late James Gandolfini autographed the driver's side sun visor and added the message: "Be Nice to My Car." Later in the series Tony upgraded to a Cadillac Escalade ESV, a more modern Mafioso vehicle.

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THE STANDARD FEATURES YOU EXPECT AND SOME YOU DON'T

#1 SELLING AUTOMOTIVE COMPANY IN CANADA[2] 2010–2013

2014 FIESTA S

Fiesta Titanium model shown

PURCHASE FINANCE FOR ONLY

OWN FOR ONLY $75**@0.99% APR

FINANCE BI-WEEKLY FOR 84 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN INCLUDES FREIGHT

OR OWN FOR ONLY $13,198

OFFERS INCLUDE $2,500 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES. OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$75**
$750	$71**
$1,500	$67**

STANDARD FEATURES

- 6-SPEAKER AUDIO
- AUDIO INPUT JACK
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM
- ADVANCETRAC® WITH ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL
- 60/40 SPLIT REAR SEATS
- 7 AIRBAGS

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- HILL START ASSIST
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- TORQUE VECTORING CONTROL

2014 FOCUS S

WORLD'S BEST-SELLING CAR NAMEPLATE‡

Focus Titanium model shown

PURCHASE FINANCE FOR ONLY

OWN FOR ONLY $85**@0.99% APR

FINANCE BI-WEEKLY FOR 84 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN INCLUDES FREIGHT

OR OWN FOR ONLY $14,948

OFFERS INCLUDE $2,500 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES. OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$85**
$750	$81**
$1,500	$77**

STANDARD FEATURES

- REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- ADVANCETRAC® WITH ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL
- INDEPENDENT REAR SUSPENSION
- AUDIO INPUT JACK
- 160-HP ENGINE
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- AIR CONDITIONING
- ACTIVE GRILLE SHUTTERS
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- INTEGRATED BLIND SPOT MIRRORS
- TORQUE VECTORING CONTROL

2014 ESCAPE S

CANADA'S BEST SELLING SUV‡

Escape Titanium model shown

PURCHASE FINANCE FOR ONLY

OWN FOR ONLY $149**@1.99% APR

FINANCE BI-WEEKLY FOR 84 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN INCLUDES FREIGHT

OR OWN FOR ONLY $25,178

OFFERS INCLUDE $750 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES. OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$149**
$750	$144**
$1,500	$140**

STANDARD FEATURES

- ADVANCETRAC® WITH ROLL STABILITY CONTROL
- AIR CONDITIONING
- 6-SPEED SELECTSHIFT® TRANSMISSION
- 7 AIRBAGS
- 6-SPEAKER AUDIO
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- INTEGRATED BLIND SPOT MIRRORS
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- ACTIVE GRILLE SHUTTERS
- CURVE CONTROL
- TORQUE VECTORING CONTROL

2014 F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

F-SERIES CANADA'S BEST-SELLING TRUCKS† FOR 48 YEARS

LEASE FOR ONLY

$299***@1.49% APR

PER MONTH FOR 24 MONTHS WITH $1,950 DOWN INCLUDES FREIGHT

OFFERS INCLUDE $8,500 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES. OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$1,950	$299***
$3,450	$236***
$4,350	$198***

EXPECTED FEATURES

- 5.0L V8, 360 HP, 380 LB-FT TORQUE
- SECOND ROW FLAT LOAD FLOOR
- ALL-TERRAIN TIRES
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- MACHINED ALUMINUM WHEEL
- POWER REMOTE MIRRORS

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- FOG LAMPS
- VOICE-ACTIVATED SYNC®
- ENGINE BLOCK HEATER
- HILL START ASSIST

Our advertised prices include Freight, Air Tax, and PPSA (if financed or leased). Add dealer administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes, then drive away.

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Vehicle(s) may be shown with optional equipment. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers only valid at participating dealers. Retail offers may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. Retail offers may not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). * Until June 30, 2014. Purchase a new 2014 [Fiesta S/ Fiesta Titanium/ Focus S/ Focus Titanium/Escape S FWD/ Escape Titanium] for [$13,198/$21,164/$14,948/$26,164/$25,178/$32,998] (after Total Manufacturer Rebate of [$2,500/$500/$2,500/$500/$750/$1,500] deducted). Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after total manufacturer rebate has been deducted. Offers include freight and air tax but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ** Until June 30, 2014: receive 0.99%, /0.99%/1.99%, APR purchase financing on new 2014 [Fiesta S Hatch/ Focus S/ Escape S] models for up to 84 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: 2014 Ford [Fiesta S Hatch/Focus S/ Escape S]. for $13,198/ $14,948/$25,178 (after $0,$750/$1,500/$0,$750/$1,500/$0,$750/$1,500 down payment or equivalent trade-in, and $2,500/$2,500/$750 Manufacturer Rebate deducted) purchase financed at 0.99%/0.99%/1.99% APR for 84 months, monthly payment is $163,$154,$145/$185, $176,$166/$322,$312,$303 (the sum of twelve (12) monthly payments divided by 26 periods gives payee a bi-weekly payment of $75,$71, $67/$85,$81, $77/$149,$144,$140), interest cost of borrowing is $470,$443,$416/$532,$505,$479/$1,819,$1,765,$1,711 or APR of 0.99%/0.99%/1.99% and total to be repaid is $13,650,$13,672,$13,694/$15,470,$15,492,$15,514/$27,118,$26,958,$26,980. Down payment may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. All purchase finance offers include freight and air tax and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. *** Until June 30, 2014 lease a new 2014 Ford [F-150 XLT Supercrew 4x4] for up to 24 months and get 1.49% APR on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease [F-150 XLT Supercrew 4x4] with a value of $29,858 after [$1,950/$3,450/$4,350] down payment or equivalent trade in, [$8,500] manufacturer rebates, and $[1,200] Ford Credit Cash deducted and including freight and air tax of [$1,800]) at 1.49% APR for up to 24 months with an optional buyout of $22,383, monthly payment is [$299/$236/$198], total lease obligation is [$8,126/$9,114/$8,102]. Offers include freight, air tax, and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. Additional payments required for optional features, license, and insurance. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Some conditions and mileage restriction of 40,000km for 24 months applies. Excess kilometrage charges are 16cper km for F-Series, plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change, see your local dealer for details. ◊ Offer only valid from May 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with an eligible Costco membership on or before April 30, 2014. Receive $500 towards the purchase or lease of a new 2014/2015 Ford Fiesta (excluding S), Focus (excluding S and BEV), C-MAX, and $1,000 towards all other Ford models (excluding Raptor, GT500, Mustang Boss 302, and Medium Truck) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Limit one (1) offer per each Eligible Vehicle purchase or lease, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. Applicable taxes calculated before offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer. Offers only valid at participating dealers. Retail offers may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. Retail offers not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). ‡ Based on year-end 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 total sales figures for light vehicles in Canada from Dealtracker, Automotive Consultants Inc. (and Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association data exchanged by OEMs). Actual fuel consumption will vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. ◦ Claim based on analysis by Ford of Polk global new registration for CY2012 for a single nameplate which includes dedicated vehicles, platform derivatives or other vehicle nameplate versions. † F-Series is the best-selling pickup truck in Canada for 48 years in a row based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales reports, up to December 2013. ©2014 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. ©2014 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

An electric car with lots of hidden surprises

The new BMW i3 was conceived as an electric car, which means the design and layout were optimally integrated with the powertrain. The electric motor is in the back, driving the rear wheels, with the batteries sandwiched into the floor. While electric cars are considered to be low-volume vehicles, BMW is having to increase capacity to keep up with demand. The base price in the low $45,000 range in Canada might have something to do with that. A Nissan Leaf starts at about $32,000.

JEFF MELNYCHUK
Wheelbase Media

Modern-furniture finishes are a radical departure from standard design.
Sized between the 1-series and 3-series cars
M GI 3344

ECO modes

Go even further

Two "ECO" modes that extend range by up to 24 per cent.

Zero-100 km/h

Get movin'

170-horsepower electric motor is good for zero-to-100 km/h in about 7.2 seconds. Top speed is limited to 150 km/h.

Body panels

Come on in!

Open access for four, from both sides. Most body panels are made of carbon-fibre-reinforced plastic.

Electric or gas

Battery range

Range is about 110 to 180 kilometres with a full charge taking about 3.5 hours. Optional two-cylinder gas engine extends the range to about 290 kilometres before gas/electricity have to be topped up.

Coast to recharged batteries

Wheel-power

During coasting, spinning wheels help recharge the batteries.

1,100 kilograms

Lightweight

At 1,100 kilograms, it weighs about the same as Mazda Miata.

Safety

Reinforced cell

Passenger cell is made of carbon-fibre-reinforced plastic.

New Red and Black Fiestas launching this fall

A standout. Editions offer boosted engine and dual colour code — either mostly red or mostly black — inside and outside car

Ford has announced the launch of two new Red or Black editions of the Fiesta with a new 140 hp version of the 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine for September 2014.

Ford has unveiled the Red Edition, a new version of the Fiesta. It will only be available as a three-door model and will have a two-toned body, either mostly red or mostly black, depending on the model clients select.

A special bodykit, made up of sports bumpers on the front and rear end, side skirts and a rear spoiler, ensure it stands out in other ways, as well. The dual colour code also features inside the car.

Launched at the end of 2012, the latest generation of Ford Fiestas features voice-activated connectivity system SYNC, low-speed collision avoidance system, Active City Stop, as well as configurable key MyKey, which enables car owners to place certain restrictions, on speed or audio volume, for instance.

This system is designed to make young drivers aware of their responsibilities.

The Red and Black editions of the new Ford Fiesta will be available to order this summer and delivery will start in September.

AFP

The new Red and Black Edition Fiestas with a 140 hp version of the 1.0-litre EcoBoost engine are available to order this summer for delivery starting in September. COURTESY FORD

Check out some of the reasons why Nissan is

THE FASTEST GROWING BRAND IN CANADA

Over the last 12 months in the non-luxury segment.°

NISSAN
Innovation that excites

SPECIAL WORRY FREE LEASING

NO-CHARGE MAINTENANCE* FOR THREE YEARS + $0 DOWN PAYMENT

ON SELECT NISSAN LEASES

SL AWD Premium model shown with Accessory Roof Rail Crossbars▲

2014 ALL-NEW NISSAN ROGUE

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:
- BETTER FUEL ECONOMY (HWY) THAN ESCAPE, RAV4 AND CR-V[X]

2014 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK — SMALL SUV

2014 alg RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD — HIGHEST RESALE VALUE

LEASE FROM **$135** SEMI-MONTHLY# AT **2.99%** APR PER MONTH FOR **60** MONTHS FREIGHT AND FEES INCLUDED

Platinum model shown▲

2014 NISSAN PATHFINDER

- BEST-IN-CLASS FUEL ECONOMY^∞
- BEST-IN-CLASS INTERIOR PASSENGER VOLUME•
- 2014 PATHFINDER HYBRID NOW AVAILABLE

LEASE FROM **$184** SEMI-MONTHLY# AT **2.9%** APR AT PER MONTH FOR **60** MONTHS FREIGHT AND FEES INCLUDED

INCLUDES **$1,000** BONUS CASH*

PLUS CHECK OUT OUR OTHER GREAT OFFERS

2014 NISSAN MURANO

- 3.5L, 260-HP, V6 ENGINE
- INTUITIVE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, XTRONIC® CVT

0% APR FOR UP TO **72** MONTHS± ON SELECT MODELS FINANCING

OR GET

$7,000†† IN CASH DISCOUNTS ON MOST 2014 MURANO MODELS

INCLUDES **$1,000** BONUS CASH*

SL AWD model shown▲

2014 NISSAN TITAN

- 5.6L DOHC V8 ENGINE WITH 317-HP & 385 LB-FT TORQUE
- UP TO 9,500 LBS TOWING CAPABILITY

FINANCE FROM **0%** APR FOR UP TO **84** MONTHS± ON ALL MODELS

PLUS UP TO

$6,000† IN CASH DISCOUNTS ON SELECT MODELS

Crew Cab SL model shown▲

HURRY, OFFERS END JUNE 30TH FIND YOUR ADVANTAGE AT **CHOOSENISSAN.CA** OR YOUR LOCAL RETAILER

*$1,000 Bonus Cash applicable to customers who cash purchase, lease or finance any new 2014 Pathfinder/Murano models on approved credit on units in stock. The $1,000 additional Cash Bonus consists of $750 NCF cash and $250 Dealer Participation and will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Offer available for qualified customers only. Offer available from June 22-30, 2014 inclusively. Conditions apply. *$1,000 Bonus Cash applicable to customers who lease or finance any new 2014 Sentra/ Altima Sedan/Versa Note/Versa Sedan models through Nissan Canada Finance on approved credit on units in stock. The $1,000 additional Cash Bonus consists of $750 NCF cash and $250 Dealer Participation and will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Offer available for qualified customers only. Offer available from June 22-30,, 2014 inclusively. Offer not available for cash purchase buyers. Conditions apply. †CASH DISCOUNT :Get $6,000/$4,000 stackable cash discount on the purchase of a 2014 KC, SV 4X4 SWB (3KCG74 AA0D)/any new 2014 Titan (except 2014 Titan KC, SV 4X4 SWB (3KCG74 AA0D). The cash discount is based on stackable trading dollars when registered and delivered between June 10 – 30, 2014 with sub-vented finance rates through Nissan Canada Finance only. The cash discount, will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. ††CASH DISCOUNT: Get $7,000 cash discount on the cash purchase of any new 2014 Murano models (except Murano S AWD CVT, L6RG14 AAA0D). The cash discount is based on non-stackable trading dollars when registered and delivered between June 22 – 30, 2014.The cash discount is only available on the cash purchase, and will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease or finance rates. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. $1,000 bonus cash included in advertised Murano offer. ^Representative semi-monthly lease offer based on new 2014 Rogue S FWD (Y6RG14 AA0D), CVT transmission/2014 Pathfinder S 4X2 (5XRG14 AA0D), CVT transmission. 2.99%/2.9% lease APR for a 60/60 month term equals 120/120 semi-monthly payments of $135/$184 with $0/$0 down payment, and $0/$0 security deposit. First semi-monthly payment, down payment and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $16,186/$22,091. $500/$500 NCF Lease Cash included in advertised price, applicable only on 2014 Rogue S FWD (Y6RG14 AA0D), CVT transmission/2014 Pathfinder S 4X2 (5XRG14 AA0D), CVT transmission through subvented lease through Nissan Canada Finance. $1,000 bonus cash included in advertised Pathfinder offer. #Representative finance offer based on new 2014 Titan KC SV 4X4 SWB (3KCG74 AA0D). Selling Price is $37,742 financed at 0% APR equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $207 for an 84-month term, $0 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $37,742. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. $6,000 cash discount included in advertised amount only when purchased through Nissan Canada Finance. ▲▲Models shown $35,362/$44,292/$42,732/$53,892 Selling price for a new 2014 Rogue SL AWD Premium model (Y6DG14 BK0D), CVT transmission/2014 Pathfinder Platinum 4x4 (5XEG14 AA0D), CVT Transmission/2014 Murano SL (L6TG14 AA0D), CVT Transmission/2014 Titan Crew Cab SL (3CFG74 AA0D). ▲▲▲Freight and PDE charges ($1,630/$1,560/$1,750/$1,610), air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, certain fees (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. Offers valid between June 22 – 30, 2014. °Nissan is the fastest growing brand in the non-luxury segment based on comparison of 12-month retail sales from April 2013 to March 2014 of all Canadian automotive brands and 12-month averages sales growth. #Offer is administered by Nissan Canada Extended Services Inc. (NCESI) and applies to new 2014 Nissan Rogue, Pathfinder and Sentra models (each, an "Eligible Model") leased and registered through Nissan Canada Finance Services Inc., on approved credit, between June 3 – 30, 2014 from an authorized Nissan retailer in Canada. Offer recipient will be entitled to receive a maximum of six (6) service visits (each, a "Service Visit") for the Eligible Vehicle – where each Service Visit consists of one (1) oil change (using conventional 5W30 motor oil) and one (1) tire rotation service (each, an "Eligible Service"). All Eligible Services will be conducted in strict accordance with the Oil Change and Tire Rotation Plan outline in the Agreement Booklet for the Eligible Vehicle. The service period ("Service Period") will commence on the lease transaction date ("Transaction Date") and will expire on the earlier of: (i) the date on which the maximum number of Service Visits has been reached; (ii) 36 months from the Transaction Date; or (ii) when the Eligible Vehicle has reached 48,000 kilometers. All Eligible Services must be completed during the Service Period, otherwise they will be forfeited. The Offer may be upgraded to use premium oil at the recipient's expense. The Eligible Services are not designed to meet all requirements and specifications necessary to maintain the Eligible Vehicle. To see the complete list of maintenance necessary, please refer to the Service Maintenance Guide. Any additional services required are not covered by the Offer and are the sole responsibility and cost of the recipient. Offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain offers NCESI reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. Ask your retailer for details. ‡Based on GAC (AIAMC) Compact segmentation. All information compiled from third-party sources, including AutoData and manufacturer websites. April 7, 2014. ^Based on 2014 Canadian Residual Value Award in Subcompact Car segment. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. ^All information compiled from third-party sources including manufacturer websites. Not responsible for errors in data on third party websites. 12/17/2013. ^Ward's Large Cross/Utility segment. MY14 Pathfinder vs. 2013 Large Cross/Utility Class. 2014 Pathfinder S 2WD with CVT transmission fuel consumption estimate is 10.5L/100 KM CITY | 7.7L/100 KM HWY | 9.3L/100 KM combined. Actual mileage will vary with driving conditions. Use for comparison purposes only. Based on 2012 EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. 2014 Pathfinder Platinum model shown. •Ward's Large Cross/Utility Market Segmentation. MY14 Pathfinder vs. 2014 Large Cross/Utility Class. iPod® is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. All rights reserved. iPod® not included. Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. Offers have no cash alternative value. See your participating Nissan retailer for complete details. ©1998-2014 Nissan Canada Inc. and Nissan Financial Services Inc. a division of Nissan Canada Inc.

This scraggy shrub is a rubber resource

Guayule. A consortium is looking into this desert plant as an alternative to the rubber tree as demand for natural rubber grows

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

If this scraggy shrub was growing on your property, chances are you'd be looking to eradicate it with a big weed whacker.

Not only is it not pretty, but it's got a name that gives your mouth a cardiovascular and flexibility workout: *guayule*, pronounced "gwah-yoo-lee."

But this shrub, which grows wild in the desert, produces rubber.

The world's demand for natural rubber is increasing, and many are concerned that the rubber tree (a.k.a. the Hevea tree) won't be able to keep up. It's only grown in a relatively thin strip around the equator in jungle-like locations that are not fun for workers, and where landowners have more lucrative crop options (some legal, some not so much). On top of that, it takes seven years before you can harvest rubber from a rubber tree.

So a consortium — led by Cooper Tires and which includes Arizona State University — has a $6.9-million grant from the U.S. government to look into the possibility of large-scale growth and production of guayule-based natural rubber.

Arizona State is looking at the entire social and environmental impact of turning desert into guayule farmland.

We could just use more synthetic rubber, sourced from petrochemicals, but that's not ideal, and natural rubber is a very unique product.

Even with all their laboratories and white coats, tire scientists still prefer to use natural rubber in tires.

"Natural rubber is the closest thing to the perfect elastomer. If I could only use one elastromer in a tire, I would chose natural rubber," says Cooper Tire research scientist Howard Colvin, from the company's headquarters in Findlay, Ohio.

The guayule is an alternative source of natural rubber. USDA

Colvin says natural rubber has lots of beneficial properties, but among the most prized is its ability to self-heal.

"When you get a small crack in the rubber compound, the crack stops immediately. In synthetics that is not the case. This is especially important in a sidewall, where you have a lot of flexing going on."

Natural rubber stays "cooler" than synthetic rubbers.

According to Colvin, the rubber fibres sourced from guayule are remarkably similar to fibres sourced from Hevea, except that guayule, "smells a lot better ... fresher ... a bit like Pine Sol."

Guayule can be harvested every 18 months, and harvesting nets useful byproducts, such as resins and biomass that can be processed into fuel.

Many tire makers, including Cooper, are also looking into Russian dandelion-sourced rubber; its main byproduct is sugars.

Colvin's colleague, Chuck Yurkovich, Cooper's vice-president of global technology, personally feels that guayule is closer to being a realist rubber resource than Russian dandelion. How close?

"We're at the point where we are building and testing tires. But a lot also depends on the success of the agronomic part of the equation. Then there would be manufacturing capabilities to be built up. But theoretically you could have a product on the market that uses some guayule rubber in five to 10 years. A lot depends on what happens in the next 12 to 18 months."

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Shift: Engines get smaller, some prices get lower, while efforts to boost fuel efficiency are on the rise

The long-promised Toyota FCV hydrogen car will go into production before the end of the year, according to Toyota. The fuel-cell vehicle converts hydrogen into electricity for propulsion. ALL TEXT AND IMAGES WHEELBASE MEDIA

Toyota fuel-cell-vehicle production to start in December ahead of schedule

Toyota's long-promised hydrogen-fuel-cell vehicle will go into production ahead of schedule in mid-December, the company says. Sales will also begin "by the end of the year," according to the Japan Times newspaper, ahead of Toyota's original on-sale date some time in 2015. The FCV converts hydrogen into electricity for propulsion. Toyota confirmed that the production vehicle would use technology developed from its Hybrid Synergy Drive hybrid system, using a combination of hydrogen tanks and a battery pack to supply power to the vehicle.

Mercedes hybrid system saves fuel

The push for more efficient vehicles is leading automakers to develop new ways to save fuel, observes website The Car Connection. It says Mercedes-Benz's new Intelligent Hybrid system will work invisibly with its navigation system "without the driver ever knowing anything is happening. If you're approaching a long downward slope in the next few miles ... the car knows it will receive a full charge from the kinetic energy of travelling downhill. It will assign more electric power to the motor in the meantime, giving less work for the engine to do, saving fuel."

Price war means Canada gets two cars priced below $10,000, website reports

There's a price war going on at the bottom end of the Canadian car market, notes alternative vehicle website Green Car Reports. On one side, Nissan's new Micra — a small contender in the European and Japanese markets — is being introduced to North America, albeit available only (for now) in Canada. On the other side is the Mitsubishi Mirage. "This is available in the United States, too, but after Nissan set the Micra's price to $9,998, a $2,500 cash discount from Mitsubishi means that car also drops under 10 grand." At the current exchange rate, both Micra and Mirage cost $9,150 in U.S. dollars, plus destination charges.

The new Nissan Micra has gone on sale in Canada for less than $10,000.

Shift points

- **Wireless charging could be an option on some Volkswagen vehicles as early as 2017, says VW's leader for electrified vehicles, Herbert Ruholl.** VW has held back its technology while industry standardization issues are worked out. A lack of standardization would "not be good" for customers, he said.
- **California startup Tesla Motors is taking its patented technologies open source to help encourage the development of electric cars and supporting infrastructure.** "Tesla will not initiate patent lawsuits against anyone who, in good faith, wants to use our technology," said founder and CEO Elon Musk in a company Internet post.

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♦2014 Mazda3 has a higher residual value than any other vehicle in the compact car segment according to ALG. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. †0% APR Purchase Financing is available on all new 2014 and 2015 Mazda models. Terms vary by model. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $25,139 for the new 2015 CX-5 GX (NVXK65AA00) with a financed amount of $25,000, the cost of borrowing for a 36-month term is $0, monthly payment is $694.44, total finance obligation is $25,000. ˅No Payments for 90 Days (payment deferral) offer is available on all new in-stock 2014 and 2015 Mazda models and only applies to purchase finance offers on approved credit. No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period interest will begin to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. Offer period June 3rd - 30th, 2014. ‡Offer available on retail leases of all-new 2014 Mazda3 GX (D4XK64AA00)/2015 Mazda6 GX (G4XL65AA00)/2015 CX-5 GX (NVXK65AA00) with a lease APR of 1.99%/0.99%/2.99% and bi-weekly payments of $88/$119/$129 for 48/48/60 months, the total lease obligation is $9,203/$14,940/$17,570, including down payment of $0/$2,595/$750. As shown, Offered Pricing for all-new 2014 Mazda3 GT (D4TL84AA00)/2015 Mazda6 GT (G4TL65AA00)/2015 CX-5 GT (NXTL85AA00) with a lease APR of 1.99%/0.99%/2.99% and bi-weekly payments of $159/$166/$184 for 48/48/60 months, the total lease obligation is $16,569/$19,874/$24,707, including down payment of $0/$2,595/$750. Lease payments include freight and P.D.E. of $1,695/$1,695/$1,895. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies. Offers exclude HST. Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Licence, insurance, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid June 3rd - 30th, 2014, while supplies last. Lease and finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your dealer for complete details.

Connect with what matters on the go

The future is now. The latest breed of car allows you to keep in touch with your contacts, fave music and super useful apps

In-Dash Apps

Though relatively new, in-dash app-driven systems are starting to hit the market in a big way. A few automakers presently offer Google search, Facebook, Twitter and other apps right through the central-command interface, allowing drivers to use voice command or the touch screen (when parked), to keep up-to-date.

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Metro World News

Today's driver wants to stay connected on the move, and automakers are offering ever-advancing features and technologies to do just that — helping drivers connect with what matters most, whether it's with people, information, directions, assistance or their favourite multimedia.

Here's a closer look at some of the latest connectivity features and systems you'll likely find available in your next new ride.

Connected to Contacts:

Press a button, say a contact name, and wait for your phone call to begin.

With today's Bluetooth phone systems, staying in touch on the go is just that simple.

Part of a suite of popular voice-commanded features, Bluetooth allows drivers to handle calls without removing their eyes from the road or hands from the wheel — possibly preventing an expensive ticket.

Many new rides can even use the Bluetooth link between your handset and your ride to read your text messages or emails out loud.

Connected to Your Tunes:

With access to a built-in USB connector, Bluetooth-powered audio streaming or integrated iPod inputs, today's drivers can play their favourite tunes directly from the device they're stored on — and do it easily, without even plugging anything in.

These high-end multimedia connectivity solutions are becoming increasingly popular at lower price points than ever.

Some vehicles even have a built-in hard drive, allowing drivers to "rip" their CD collection directly into their ride's stereo for later playback.

Other vehicles offer Internet radio functionality right in the dashboard. Whether your tunes of choice are inside a smartphone, CD, USB drive, MP3 player or beamed to your car via satellite from high above the Earth, today's rides make accessing them a cinch.

Connected to Your Ride:

The link between smartphone and car is getting serious. A few automakers are presently leading the way, including Ford, Nissan, Chevrolet and Kia. Many more will follow.

Tapping into wireless communication between car and phone, your next ride will likely be able to track down flight information, movie listings, weather forecasts, Google search destinations and plenty more.

Find a search destination on your phone and send it to your car's navigation system for later use.

Remote-start your ride or track it down in a busy parking lot from your handset.

Set geographical boundaries and speed limits if someone else is driving your car, and be alerted if any are violated.

Some models can even text you if they need an oil change, if a tire is low or if your alarm is going off.

Today's rides offer connectivity to apps, contacts and more. COURTESY CADILLAC

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© 2014 smart Canada, a Division of Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc. Model shown is the 2014 smart fortwo pure. **Total price for the 2014 smart fortwo pure is $12,420 (includes all applicable fees plus dealer discount). *Lease offers based on the 2014 smart fortwo pure available only through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services on approved credit for a limited time. Lease example based on $99 per month for 24 months. Down payment of $0 plus due on delivery of $1,918 (includes Freight/ PDI $1,295, Admin fee $395, EHF Tires, Filters & Batteries $23.96, AC Levy $100, OMVIC fee $5 and first months payment $99) plus applicable taxes due at lease inception. Security deposit is waived. MSRP starting at $14,800. Lease APR of 0.9% applies. Total obligation is $4,195. 12,000 km/year allowance ($0.20/km for excess kilometres applies). Vehicle license, insurance, registration and taxes are extra. Offers may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. See your local Toronto Corporate smart Centre for details. Offer valid on vehicles delivered on or before June 30, 2014.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Sometimes it is best to leave things to fate and as you are under divine protection at the moment nothing and no one can hurt you. Not that anyone in their right mind would want to try it anyway.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
It annoys you when others drag their feet but there is no point losing your temper if a loved one takes too much time to do something today. Do whatever it takes to hold in that scream.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may be tempted to take what you want today, simply because you know that you can, but maybe you should look a little further ahead and think how it may affect a relationship.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
There may be times over the next 24 hours when it feels as if you are the only one who does not know what is going on, but is that such a bad thing? Being out of the loop could actually work in your favour today.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Let others know what you intend to do and invite them to join in if they have something to offer. This is a great day for strengthening bonds that may have come a bit loose of late.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
There is nothing wrong with having power but if you've got it you must make sure you use it in the right way. Bear that thought in mind today. Don't use power to take what you are not really entitled to.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Mars in your sign makes you believe you can do anything you choose but other aspects warn if you act without thinking today you could end up a loser. Stay on the good side of people in positions of power.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone will pull rank on you today but don't get uptight about it because there is nothing you can do to change things. Keep your thoughts and feelings to yourself.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may have to twist a few arms to get what you want today but it won't be too difficult, in fact you will enjoy playing the tough guy.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The planets warn if you don't make a decision soon about a career matter it will be taken out of your hands. Don't get too hung up on available choices. Whatever you go for will work out well for you.

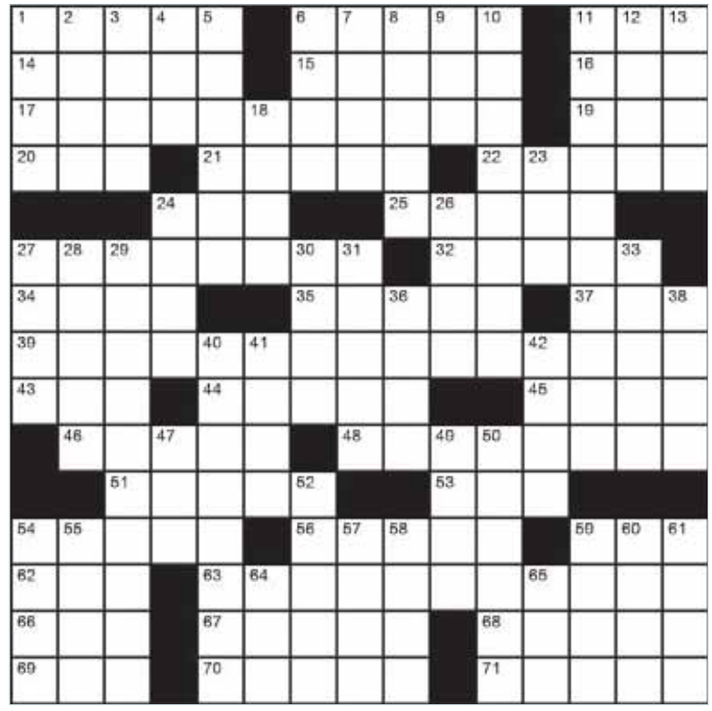
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Someone you meet on your travels will become very important to you in the weeks and months to come. You will be on exactly the same wavelength mentally and emotionally — and there is the chance romance could blossom.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Sometimes it is better to back off from a fight and with Mars opposing Uranus today this is one of them. Let others argue. Your talents are better suited to loving. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Montreal-born filmmaker, Claude __
6. Stitched
11. Li'l Alberta city
14. "Secret __ Man" by Johnny Rivers
15. Southwestern Ontario gorge village
16. Canadian choo-choo company
17. Annual music festival at Worthy Farm now underway in England
19. Have breakfast
20. Mr. Emmett, Triumph member
21. Computer chip company
22. De-shines
24. Miami, __.
25. Bowler hat
27. Drumheller's terrain in Alberta
32. Human __
34. Mr. Morales
35. Catherine of "SCTV"
37. She'd opposite
39. Elizabeth Grant = Canadian __ __ __
43. Writer Mr. Lawrence, et al.
44. Trail trekker
45. "ET Canada" Entertainment Reporter Ms. Cebula
46. Truck company headquartered in Mississauga, ON
48. Bit of "The Beverly Hillbillies" theme: "Oil that is, black gold, __ __."
51. Show ticket, informally
53. Leandro's beloved
54. Grand __ Railway
56. Weaponize again
59. BC's ocean
62. __ flooring
63. He whose works are featuredeth at the Stratford Festival in Ontario
66. Li'l four-stringer
67. "How can _ __ repay you?" (Thank you)
68. Like greenery-covered houses
69. CV
70. Dependent
71.Verbs subject

Down
1. Hockey player, Jaromir __
2. Certain citrus
3. Furniture wood
4. Medical pros
5. __ the Hun
6. E-Mailed
7. River for Hamburg
8. "That __ explain it!" (Makes sense!)
9. Flub up
10. "__ Believer" by The Monkees
11. Toronto-born ballerina who was The Royal Winnipeg Ballet's principal dancer: 2 wds.
12. Radio tuner
13. At-the-door rugs
18. __ even keel: 2 wds.
23. Caesar's 'where'
24. __ Flon, MB
26. River of Spain
27. Greatest
28. Questioner
29. Shorts styles: 2 wds.
30. Geek
31. Bedding linen
33. Soap star Ms. Francis
36. Land measure
38. Prefix to 'mite' (Explosive stuff)
40. Does this at the hotel upon arrival: 2 wds.
41. __ _ grievance
42. Money in Mexico
47. Horse coat hue
49. Gen-__ (Woodstock 94 attendees)
50. Deodorant-applying zone
52. Crossbeam
54. __ of duty
55. Tiller's tool
57. Laboriously got by
58. Lofty nest, variantly
59. Anguish
60. Ancient war god
61. Grant
64. Donkey's bray half
65. "All About __" (1950)

Yesterday's Crossword

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	4	6					9	
8					9		2	
1			2		6	4		
	1			9		5		8
3		7		8			1	
		4	9		2			3
	8		5					7
	2					1	6	

Yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	1	5	9	8	3	4	6
3	8	4	6	7	2	9	1	5
9	6	5	1	4	3	2	8	7
8	4	2	3	5	6	1	7	9
5	3	9	2	1	7	4	6	8
6	1	7	4	8	9	5	3	2
1	9	8	7	2	4	6	5	3
4	7	6	9	3	5	8	2	1
2	5	3	8	6	1	7	9	4

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Thursday
25°/15°
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3.I can Handle any Problem.
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hwy / city 100km^: 6.3L/9.2L

Sportage SX Luxury shown^Δ
Cash purchase price $38,344
hwy / city 100km^: 7.0L/10.0L

Sorento EX shown^Δ
Cash purchase price $34,544
hwy / city 100km^: 9.0L/12.7L

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- SiriusXM[1] Satellite Radio
- VSM Vehicle Stability Management

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UP TO **84**≠ MONTHS

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$3,198 IN CASH BONUS**§. Offer based on 2014 Sportage LX MT FWD (SP551E) with a purchase price of **$24,794**. Excludes HST.

STANDARD FEATURES

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- SiriusXM[1] Satellite Radio
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